

## Emergency steps soon to counter worst jobless total since 1940

Emergency measures, to be disclosed next week, are being considered by the Government in an attempt to slow the sudden rise in the number of unemployed. Yesterday's figures showed that 1,036,000 people were registered as unemployed last month (seasonally adjusted to 937,800), the highest total for 35 years. Temporary employment subsidies may be extended to the whole country instead of just the development areas as now proposed.

## Subsidies may be extended

By Hugh Noyes  
Parliamentary Correspondent  
Westminster

The Government is considering an emergency package of measures which will be produced next week to counter the sudden rise in unemployment. Ministers were clearly shocked yesterday at the announcement that the crude total on July 14 had reached 1,036,000, seasonally adjusted to 937,800.

Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, described the situation in the Commons as "a grim picture". In a grim mood, he warned MPs that the level was likely to continue upwards in the weeks and months ahead although he rejected the DECD prediction that it could reach 1,500,000 by the middle of 1976.

Departmental projections of unemployment are not normally given to the House but Mr Foot said that the situation was so serious that he did not wish to "hide the ugly facts about an even more serious situation. Because of that he would break with precedent and say that there were no figures in the Department of Employment indicating an increase to 1,500,000."

One of the measures the Government is considering for next week's package is an extension of the temporary employment subsidy scheme to cover the whole country and not just the development areas as proposed. That is a subsidy that will be paid to employers to help them to keep on employees who would otherwise become redundant.

To assist the large numbers of unemployed students and school-leavers, Mr Foot said the Government was considering further temporary measures to encourage the employment of young people in industry.

The Government, he added, would be acting in whatever way it could in the difficult economic situation to help the unemployed. Other measures being worked out with the Manpower Services Commission will be put into effect at once at a cost of £10m and will be in addition to the £50m already announced to strengthen training programmes. Mr Foot said that would make it possible for a further 6,000 young people to get skilled training this year and would strengthen the Careers Service. The Government's aim was to assist in the training of 100,000 people in 1976.

But the Secretary of State went on to warn the House and the nation that the situation could not be easily or swiftly cured. Although the unemployment was appalling it would be even worse and even more cruel to mislead people into thinking there was a simple remedy.

There were angry exchanges between the two Front Benches as Tory leaders complained that Mr Wilson was not in the House to face the unemployment protests. Mr Prior said the Prime Minister should have been present in spite of his obvious commitments elsewhere because this was an important national occasion. Mrs Thatcher said she felt sorry for Mr Short, Labour's deputy leader, for having to take the place of the

Prime Minister when there was such bad news. Mr Short retorted that the Tory leader's remark was "beneath contempt".

Mr Foot told the House that the fundamental requirement was to bring down the domestic rate of inflation. He pointed out that the figures represented an increase of 74,000 in the last month, compared with an average rise of 47,000 over the three preceding months.

Mr Foot's statement brought a bitter and angry response from Labour backbenchers, particularly those in the *Ylfringe* group. Mr Denis Skinner (Bolton) shouted that he was not prepared to tolerate the continuation of a policy that resulted in totals of this kind. He demanded that the Government should think again about import controls. Another left-winger, Mr Frank Allauz (Salisbury, East), urged the Government to launch a great public works programme such as President Roosevelt had introduced in the 1930s. Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton) said the country could no longer afford the old type of private enterprise system.

From the Conservative front bench, Mr Prior said the whole House would be shocked and disturbed at the figures. They were now at the beginning of the price that was having to be paid for the electoral bribes and inaction of the Government to deal with inflation. He suggested that in the circumstances Mr Foot should stop hawking his conscience around the House and the country, and resign.

Leading article, page 13

## Government defeat narrowly averted

By Our Parliamentary  
Correspondent  
Westminster

The Government received a nasty shock last night when a Liberal amendment to its pay legislation was defeated with Conservative support by only a single vote. The figures were 257 to 256, on the first division of the night at the committee stage of the Remuneration, Charges and Grants Bill.

The amendment, proposing a series of exceptions to the Government's £6 pay limit, would have driven a coach and horses through its counter-inflation policy.

Mr Mellish, Government Chief Whip, looked greatly relieved at the narrow escape but it was soon clear that the Government was in for a long, hard night.

Earlier, Mr Short, Leader of the House, made one concession to Opposition pressure when he agreed not to force through all the remaining stages of the Bill at one sitting.

At one point Labour whips had been threatening to keep the sitting going until Sunday, if necessary, to get the Bill through. There was some Labour backbench support for the amendment as Mr Pardoos, Liberal MP for Cornwall, North, explained its terms.

Included in Mr Pardoos's exceptions to the pay limit were increases due to a major change in duties or nature of employment, pay for work done wholly or substantially outside the United Kingdom or on British ships and aircraft, and remuneration by superannuation contribution for a fund approved by the Inland Revenue.

Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, said there seemed to be a general assumption that the White Paper was to have universal legal force. That was wrong, and the Government expected and hoped that 99 per cent of the people would comply voluntarily.



Mr Wilson with Herr Schmidt, West German Chancellor (centre) at a Hamburg press conference.

## Mr Wilson strengthens Bonn links

From Roger Berthoud  
Hamburg, July 24

An informal meeting in Hamburg today between Mr Wilson and Herr Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, appeared to have produced a welcome mellowing in Anglo-German relations. These ties, sapped by "negotiations" and the subsequent EEC referendum, had looked increasingly inadequate beside the strong Paris-Bonn axis.

In describing today's "very wide-ranging and fast-moving" discussions, Mr Wilson made it clear that he had been deeply impressed by Herr Schmidt's intellectual contribution to last week's EEC summit meeting in Brussels.

Herr Schmidt underlined his expectation that the uninhibited discussions which they had had would lead to a new turn in the relationship.

British economic policies, and by the support described by Mr Wilson from the trade unions, especially the miners.

In a joint press conference at a yacht club overlooking the sparkling Alster Lake which refreshes the Hanseatic city's heart, Mr Wilson said what a great pleasure it was to visit this beautiful city again with its many British links.

Herr Schmidt pointed out that Hamburg, his native city, prided itself on being more Anglophile than others. Hamburg people were particularly relieved about the result of the referendum. "In this city almost nobody could conceive of a European Community leaving our Britain," he said speaking throughout in English.

All this was, perhaps, more significant than the content of the discussions. They were basically an extension of last week's EEC meeting with a preview of next week's 35-nation summit

finale in Helsinki of the European Security Conference. Herr Schmidt meanwhile expects President Giscard d'Estaing in Bonn on Friday, followed on Saturday by President Ford, whose visit en route to Warsaw and Helsinki is a tribute to Herr Schmidt's position among West European leaders.

Mr Wilson announced today that he will be host at a luncheon in Helsinki for all four powers, at which Berlin would be among the topics of major concern to the Federal Republic. He had been particularly glad to discuss this field with the Chancellor, since it fell to him to make the opening speech in Helsinki, he said.

The main emphasis in the discussions was on the world economic situation, energy and raw materials, and the development of the EEC. The foreign ministers concentrated on the Middle East, Portugal and Iceland.

## Discovery of new star excites scientists

From Pearce Wright,  
Science Editor  
Houston, July 24

The discovery by the astronauts in the American Apollo spacecraft of a star emitting an intense beam of ultra-violet radiation has caused a flurry of excitement among earth-bound astronomers. The discovery has also provided an intriguing climax to the historic Soviet-American space venture that started 10 days ago.

Officials of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration concede readily that the decision to make the flight was a political one. The fact that some useful scientific information has been obtained in a by-product is seized upon nevertheless to support the argument for manned space flights.

The detection of the source of ultra-violet radiation came in the last moments of experimental work by Brigadier-General Thomas Stafford and his crew. They were making final observations with a special telescope. Observers at the ground control centre realized that something unusual was happening as they saw a change in the pattern of signals being transmitted back to Earth from the telescope.

Dr C. S. Bowyer, of the University of California, who built the instrument, said the strength of the signals lasting for about seven minutes was an incredible surprise. Houston, July 24.—The three Apollo astronauts today splashed down in the Pacific after the first joint spaceflight with Russian cosmonauts.

The capsule, containing Brigadier-General Thomas Stafford, Mr Brand and Mr Slayton, landed gently under parachutes at 9.18 pm GMT in full view of television cameras on board the recovery ship New Orleans.—UPI and Reuters.

Cosmonauts sum up, page 5

## Jobless 'spur to union fight against inflation'

By Paul Roudledge  
Labour Editor

Trade union leaders responded with dismay yesterday to the rise in registered unemployed beyond the politically sensitive one million mark, but Mr Jack Jones, leader of the country's biggest union, said the jobless trend should spur the unions to greater efforts to contain wage inflation.

Speaking in Leeds after the Yorkshire regional committee of the Transport and General Workers' Union had responded favourably to the £6 a week limit on pay rises, he said: "My reaction is that the new figures more than justify the efforts we are making and sound the alarm for further efforts to be taken to try to contain the general trend towards further inflation."

The position would have been worse had we not come to the aid of the Government and worked out the counter-inflation policy, because inflation and unemployment are very much linked to one another. I find everywhere there is a good understanding of the need to put the view we are putting forward."

Mr Jones had earlier fired the opening shots in the TUC's campaign to gain widespread rank-and-file acceptance of the Government's pay policy, but after the publication of the unemployment figures he said the unions would once again

## 15,000 a week join unemployment register

By Melvyn Westlake  
Economics Staff

The number of unemployed in Britain soared last month to the highest level since 1940. For the first time for 35 years the crude jobless total has risen above the emotive one million mark. Even during the winter of 1971-72, the previous high-water mark in postwar unemployment, the total had never risen to a million only by including those people temporarily stopped.

Last month's crude figure, however, does include school-leavers and adult students, and is not adjusted for seasonal fluctuations. But even the statistically refined total, which allows for these factors, climbed to a new postwar peak of 937,800 and seems certain to rise above a million next month.

There was a 74,000 jump in this adjusted total in the five weeks ahead of the count on July 14; the largest single monthly increase in unemployment for a generation. From that it is clear that people are joining the unemployment register at the rate of nearly 15,000 a week, compared with 13,000 a week in June. Although the Government has been bracing itself for the politically sensitive level of one million to be reached, the crude figure appears to have been established a month earlier than expected.

But ministers are powerless in the face of the rapidly expanding labour market. Mr Foot,

Secretary of State for Employment, and the member of the Cabinet who, perhaps, epitomizes the Labour movement's detestation of unemployment, said that before a substantial improvement could be secured the domestic rate of inflation must be brought down.

However, the unemployment total is certain to be swollen next month by large numbers of young people leaving school, and the many gloomy forecasts of 1,500,000 jobless next year now look increasingly likely. The rate of increase in recent weeks has indeed been very rapid.

In just four months the number unemployed (adjusted and excluding school-leavers and students) has increased by 200,000 or 30 per cent. The total on this basis, of 937,800, is equivalent to 4.1 per cent of the whole workforce, while the crude total of 1,036,300 is equivalent to 4.5 per cent.

The number of registered vacancies, which is the other main barometer of the state of the labour market, reinforces the dismal picture. Vacancies on the books of employment offices dropped a further 13,000 in July (seasonally adjusted) to 129,000. That is less than half the number last winter and the lowest number since early 1972.

Since the peak of the last economic boom in 1973 notified vacancies on employment office books have fallen

## 'Gunman' takes women hostage at airport

By David Leigh and Craig Seton

A man burst into the crowded passenger lounge at Manchester airport yesterday evening brandishing a replica pistol and held two young women hostage while he boarded an aircraft. He was overpowered by Special Branch officers and security men after he had ordered cleaning staff to leave.

The apparent hijacking attempt took place while a Britannia Airways airliner due to leave for Barcelona at 7 pm was being cleaned and inspected.

The man, who was described as slim, about 5ft 7in, with reddish hair and wearing a brown jacket, threatened the women with a snub-nosed replica pistol and used them as hostages to reach the international pier on the apron.

He ran along the pier shouting and entered the only plane standing there, which had just arrived from Athens. It contained five male cleaners, employed by Service Air, a specialist firm.

Mr Charles Potts, aged 42, one of the cleaners on the Boeing 737, said he thought the aircraft was being hijacked. "The man ran on board with a gun in his hand and it looked real enough to us. He was really angry and yelled at us to get off. With the gun pointing at us, we were not going to argue and we got off smartish." None of the staff was injured.

The police confirmed later that the man was carrying a plastic replica of a Smith and Wesson .38 revolver. Det. Chief Supr. Charles Horan, head of Greater Manchester CID, praised a plain-clothes officer, Sergeant Trevor Bradshaw, who tackled the man.

The man earlier threatened three girls, aged 18, who were about to leave on holiday to Switzerland, in the immigration control lounge, and thrust his way through several security barriers brandishing the replica weapon.

Mr Horan said that a man would be charged with possessing a firearm or an imitation firearm on an aircraft.

## Steel Corporation seeking extra £175m to meet cash crisis

By Maurice Coriua  
Industrial Editor

Large loans totalling as much as £725m will be sought by the financially-distressed British Steel Corporation—now losing £11m a week—on the money market to meet its cash needs.

This news came yesterday as other nationalized industries reported on their difficulties. British Rail revealed that its loss last year more than tripled to a total £157.8m, requiring a separate rescue operation, while the National Coal Board, bailed out by the taxpayer after the miners' strike, was still unable to avoid a small loss without selling up assets.

The situation facing the Steel Corporation is a grim problem for the Government. Its new estimate of Exchequer loans and help from foreign bankers could well set off a Parliamentary row, for the Government has been assuring the Opposition of its determination to severely restrict public borrowing requirements.

Trouble can be expected because the Chancellor estimated in the Budget statement that the

steel corporation would need £420m of new borrowings in the current financial year, though the Treasury subsequently revised this to up to £550m.

The new estimate, from the corporation, adds another £175m and presents both the Treasury and the Department of Industry with a nasty decision.

To give the necessary loans, or guarantees on overseas borrowings, means other State industries will find less in the capital kitty for easing their own individual capital crises. To refuse the necessary approvals means mass redundancy and savage cuts in the investment programme.

It is a measure of the corporation's plight that Mr Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, will hold a special meeting shortly with its full board. Earlier this week, Sir Monty Finniston, BSC chairman, said loss making was so serious that redundancies must be speeded up.

Yesterday, the Welsh TUC accused Sir Monty with using what it called "sledgehammer tactics". Mr George Wright, the secretary, deplored what he

called "arrogant disregard" for sincere and genuine attempts by steel unions to ease the corporation's cost problems while preventing heavy new redundancies.

Corporation executives are due to meet the main TUC steel committee next week to discuss progress on a £100m-a-year savings plan worked out in May when Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn clashed with Sir Monty, who then called for a 22,000 cut in the present 240,000-strong labour force.

In its official employee journal, *Steel News*, the Corporation yesterday said it had to borrow massive sums to pay the wages bill. Even if the six-point plan is agreed with the steel unions, the current year's wages costs will still exceed by 5 per cent the money available after paying suppliers.

"That leaves no money for capital expenditure, and all the other outgoings, for example interest," continues the journal. "All this will have to be borrowed."

Coal board breaks even: British Rail loses £157m, page 15

## Lord Butler advocates greater Cabinet secrecy

By Martin Huckerby

Lord Butler of Saffron Walden, in a trenchant letter read to the High Court yesterday during the Crossman diaries case, condemned as "immoral and unjustifiable" the practice of certain ministers retaining official Cabinet papers so that they could write their memoirs.

The former Conservative minister said: "I believe, in a few cases, this practice still goes on. I believe this practice is totally wrong and not in the interests of the state."

Mr Samuel Silkin, QC, the Attorney General, is seeking injunctions to prevent publication of Mr Richard Crossman's diaries, either in book form or as extracts in *The Sunday Times*.

Of all the former ministers who made statements supporting the Attorney General, Lord Butler wanted the strictest rule of secrecy: he said that instead of the present rule permitting disclosure of Cabinet matters after 30 years he would prefer a 50-year rule.

But Mr James Connolly, QC, for *The Times* Newspapers Ltd, produced 12 affidavits from politicians, journalists, and constitutional historians, who supported the case for publication.

Mr Grimond, former leader of the Liberal Party, deplored the secrecy surrounding much government business: "The bureaucratic frame of mind—self-regarding, secretive, hierarchical, and averse to open discussion—is a major, though perhaps well-intentioned, threat to our society."

Sir John Hunt, the Secretary of the Cabinet, said he had been authorized by the Prime Minister to make a statement about possible departures from the conventions of Cabinet secrecy, referred to in the previous day's proceedings, which had been made by Mr Wilson in his memoirs, *The Labour Government*.

Referring to the question of arms for South Africa, Mr Wilson had said that he had received the specific authority of the Cabinet at the time, in view of inaccurate statements in the press, to make a categorical repudiation of these statements, and to give the views of the Cabinet as a whole.

On another occasion, the Cabinet had authorized him to give an unattributable briefing to the press on Rhodesia. Sir John noted that in neither case was a detailed account of a Cabinet meeting given, nor were individuals identified. The case continues today.

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## Pessimism on Prentice appeal hopes

Moderates on the Labour Party national executive were pessimistic yesterday about the chance of Mr Prentice winning his appeal to the executive against rejection by his constituency party. The appeal procedure is likely to be protracted. Mr Prentice told the local party yesterday that he would have nothing more to do with it, and would find rooms elsewhere.

## College closures

The Government is expected to announce next month the closure of 13 colleges of education and a reduction of teacher-training places in surviving departments of education, as part of the policy to reduce the number of new teachers.

## Racing £1m richer

The Horserace Betting Levy Board has increased by £1m its prize money for next year. It has allocated £4,367,300, against £3,353,650 this year, an increase of 30 per cent. Flat racing receives an increase of £876,800 and National Hunt £421,850.

## £2 increase in peers' daily allowance

An attendance rise of £2 a day for peers, backdated to June 13, was announced in the Lords yesterday. The daily allowance will become £13.50. Lord Shepherd, Leader of the House, said he would move the resolution on Tuesday.

## Deadlock on Sinai

Egypt and Israel's proposals for disengagement in Sinai are so far apart that there is little prospect of agreement before September, according to Israeli officials. In Cairo, the authorities are not taking Mr Rabin's demand for direct negotiations too seriously.

## Pop festival: The Home Secretary said next month's festival at Watchfield, Oxfordshire, would be banned if strict hygiene standards were not met.

Christian treasures: Today Canterbury Cathedral is opening an exhibition of historical relics never before shown to the public.

Karachi: 'The Times' correspondent expelled by India explains how Mrs Gandhi's rigorous censorship law is being enforced.

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Business features: Why German builders need a state bailout; Kenneth Owen looks at the industry; board's views on research  
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## HOME NEWS

# Reenactment of Newham fight feared in other areas with moderate Labour MPs

By Diana Geddes

The decision by the management committee of Newham, North-east, Labour Party to reject Mr Prentice, Minister for Overseas Development, as its parliamentary candidate at the next election will encourage other constituencies to oust MPs with whom they do not see eye to eye. Mr Frank Tomney, Labour MP for Hammersmith, North, said yesterday.

Mr Tomney, who has represented the constituency for 25 years, faces a similar situation to that of Mr Prentice. Attempts have been made to oust him. Although he has loyal supporters, all long-serving, on the management committee, he says there has been an influx of "new" left people with new ideas.

A motion inviting him to retire as MP when the next general election is called was tabled within three weeks of his re-election with a 24 per cent majority last October. It is due to be put to the executive committee of the local Labour Party at the end of next month.

Mr Tomney, who is a firm Gateskellite and sponsored

member of the moderate General and Municipal Workers' Union, estimates that at least 20 Labour MPs may have trouble with their constituency parties because of the Newham vote.

Another "moderate" senior Labour backbencher, whose pro-EEC stand has caused him difficulties, is Mr Albert Roberts, MP for the Norman division of West Riding since 1951 and a sponsor of the National Union of Mineworkers.

Last month the union's Yorkshire area council passed a motion censuring MPs who had campaigned against union policy of withdrawal from the EEC and threatening to withdraw sponsorship if they did not toe the line. The biggest advantage of NUM sponsorship is not the small financial support MPs received but the endorsement by union representatives on the local general management committee. In a constituency like Normanton, those representatives have an important voice.

Mr Roberts, who had a majority of 35 per cent at the last election said yesterday that

he did not feel personally threatened by what had happened to Mr Prentice. But he felt that "the extreme left, who often owe more allegiance to King Street than to Transport House, have infiltrated themselves into a lot of constituencies and have organized themselves very well". The headquarters of the Communist Party of Great Britain is in King Street, Covent Garden, London.

Mr Jack Dunnett, Labour MP for Nottingham, East, has been criticized for his pro-EEC views and on the ground that as a solicitor he is not the best person to represent an industrial area.

Before the realignment of constituency boundaries last year he was MP for Nottingham Central from 1964. Of the fifty or so members of the management committee that originally selected him only two remain among the present 64 members.

"There is an increasing number of the sort of person who has come into Newham, North-east, party", Mr Dunnett said. But he did not feel threatened at the moment.

## Chances of appeal succeeding rated low

By Michael Hatfield

Political Staff

Some moderate members of the Labour Party's national executive committee predicted pessimistically last night that they would not be able to carry the day when the executive hears the appeal of Mr Prentice, Minister for Overseas Development, against the decision of his Newham, North-east, constituency party to reject him.

They were not sure that they could guarantee maximum attendance to ensure a defeat of the left if the appeal was reduced to an ideological conflict between the rival factions.

They would certainly need the vote of Mr Wilson, who rarely votes on the national executive. It was also felt that the attitude of Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, and Mr Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, could be crucial. It was being asked whether they would support the left-wing line, or in defence of the Cabinet colleague, find it convenient to be occupied on government business.

The party's organization committee will have to determine whether to adopt the normal procedure and set up an inquiry into Mr Prentice's appeal by four members or whether the full committee should investigate it.

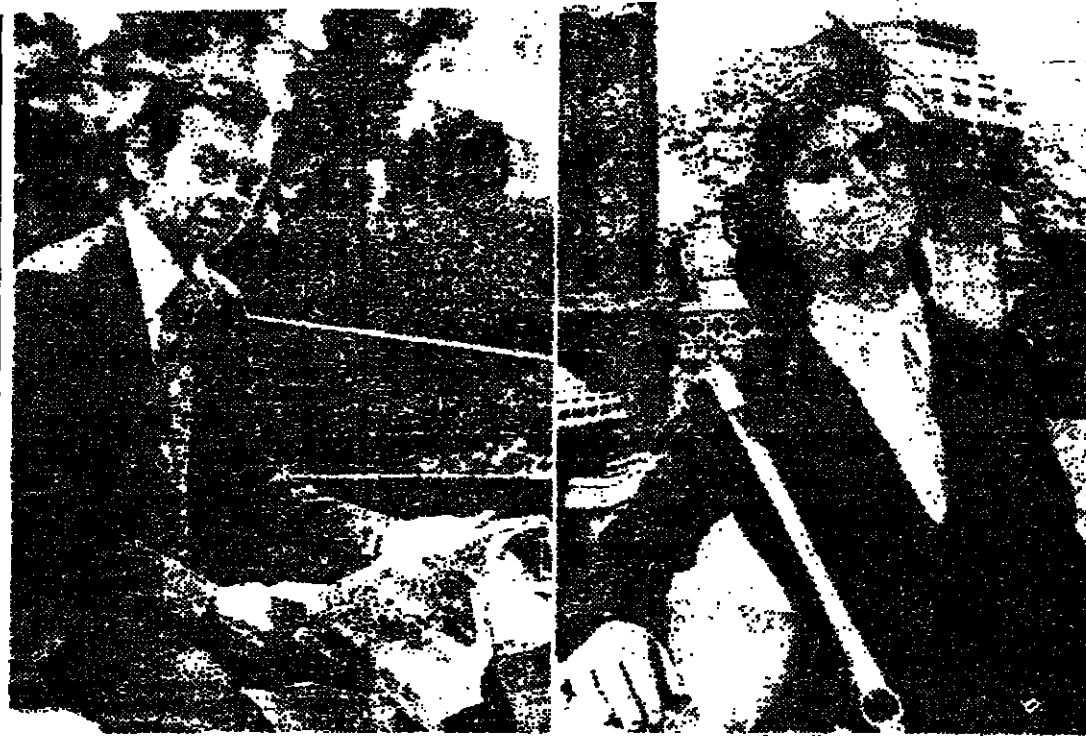
Constitutionally an inquiry has to ascertain four things: whether the local management committee was properly called; whether those who voted were entitled to under the rules of membership; whether all those entitled to vote were given adequate notice of the meeting; and whether the MP was given sufficient opportunity to express his views.

In the past, however, an appeal committee has gone beyond those requirements and expressed what it felt the local party's decision was justifiable. In the case of the late Mrs Bessie Braddock, the national executive overturned the decision of her local party.

But recently the organization committee has adhered rigidly to the rules and reported to the national executive. A protracted course of events is virtually ensured. The committee is unlikely to be in a position to present its report to the next meeting of the executive on September 26.

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Contradictory couple: Mr James Wheeler and his wife, Katharine, in London yesterday. Mr Wheeler's resolution to Lewisham, Dorset Labour Party calling for the resignation from the Cabinet of Mr John Silkin, the constituency's

MP, was rejected at a meeting on Wednesday night after Mrs Wheeler had proposed an amendment that would have deleted any reference to resignation. Mr Wheeler intends to resign from the party.

## Mr Rees's statement 'forestalls IRA'

From Stewart Tendler

Belfast

Mr Rees's announcement that he hopes to release all Ulster detainees by Christmas if the ceasefire continues has aroused speculation that he is attempting to forestall the Provisional IRA, which is said to have been planning an autumn offensive.

There have been suspicions that an IRA offensive was planned to coincide with the delivery of the Constitutional Convention's report to Westminster this autumn. Mr Rees's announcement might place the Provisionals in a position of good behaviour against the freedom of the rest of the detainees. Politically it will not be easy to risk the release of the detainees.

The announcement reactivates the charge that some form of deal has been struck between the British and Provisional negotiators. However, Stormont Castle is at some pains to note that no meetings have taken place for some time. The release of the detainees would in any case only cover half of one of the Provisionals' three demands. They have stated they want an armistice for all "political prisoners" and not just the

detainees. The number of detainees in prison stands at 246, all republicans. Some of them are seen as forming a hard core of militants whom many security officers would prefer to have inside.

Mr Harry West, leader of the official Unionist party, roundly condemned the announcement. He said: "I think that this is most irresponsible." He added that it might mean that "an element of the loyalists will feel themselves compelled to prepare for a confrontation". He said the release of detainees had not reduced violence.

Mr Seamus Loughran, northern organizer for Provisional Sinn Féin, said: "My immediate reaction is one of disgust. Mr Rees is making it perfectly clear that he is using the internees as hostages." He said it was an attempt at political blackmail.

An official of the Democratic Unionist Party said: "A precedent is being created whereby more assurances can be extracted from the Government in exchange for an extension of what is flatteringly called a ceasefire."

## 'Freeze' on linking of MPs' pay

By Our Political Editor

Nothing is to be done to link MPs' pay to the salary of an assistant secretary in the Civil Service until after the next general election has formed a new Parliament. It remains a question whether that new Parliament will take the same view as the present House of Commons in the small hours of Wednesday.

Against the wishes of the Government and the Leader of the House, the Commons carried an amendment by one vote (128-127) asserting the principle of coupling MPs' pay to an assistant secretary's scale not later than three months after the next general election.

Mr Edward Short has therefore had his own initiative to appoint a select committee blocked by a decision of the House, although most backbenchers do not seem to have understood the barrier they were erecting. Senior ministers would have been wise, even towards the close of a long career, to have taken thought before they rejected the Government's proposal.

## Prentice snub upsets local party

By David Leigh

The local Labour Party in Newham, North-east, was licking its wounds yesterday after the events that led to the dropping of Mr Prentice, Minister for Overseas Development, as its MP. Mr Prentice himself rubbed a little salt in by announcing that he would have nothing more to do with the local party, and would find rooms elsewhere to work from.

His announcement clearly upset party officials and members, who had hoped the dust would be allowed to settle on both sides before the practical question of selecting a new MP comes up at the next general election.

Mr Harold Lugg, the party president, said he told Mr Prentice that he would be able to use the Labour rooms as he wished, despite the decision. Mr Prentice had not said anything then but clearly decided on the snub overnight. The party secretary, Mr Claude Calcott, said: "If Mr Prentice wants to find another place to meet his constituents we cannot stop him. He is quite entitled to. But I hardly think the committee will be pleased by his reaction. There is no sense

in it. Surely the place to meet his constituents is in the Labour room. We have not stopped him coming here.

Even some of Mr Prentice's own supporters in the party are unhappy about his self-imposed exile. Councillor Walter Hurford said yesterday he thought it was short-sighted. He would advise Mr Prentice to think again. "Even if he finds other premises, once he moves away from the Labour hall it severs his connection."

At party headquarters in Barkin Road, the site inside the locked premises still reads: "Reg Prentice MP is in attendance here on the fourth Saturday of the month between 10 am and 12 am." Mr Prentice said:

"I am trying to make alternative arrangements privately. I am not using the Labour rooms as he wished, despite the decision. Mr Prentice had not said anything then but clearly decided on the snub overnight. The party secretary, Mr Claude Calcott, said: "If Mr Prentice wants to find another place to meet his constituents we cannot stop him. He is quite entitled to. But I hardly think the committee will be pleased by his reaction. There is no sense

resignations as a result of the Prentice affair, which has soured some relationships and cemented others.

Plea to moderates: Mr Prentice, interviewed last night on the BBC television programme *Newsday*, said of those who voted against him: "They may be able to sit in little rooms passing resolutions but they will not be able to achieve anything unless they are part of a broad party capable of winning the votes of millions of people" is Mr Leighton writes.

Their kind of intolerance was fatal to democracy, he said. They were after power without responsibility.

Court appearance: Tony Kelly, assistant secretary of Newham, North-east Labour Party, appeared before East Ham magistrates yesterday charged with non-payment of £1,361 maintenance arrears to his wife. (The Press Association reports.) Mr Robert Glancy, counsel for Mr Kelly, said his client proposed to make arrangements that would completely satisfy the court. He asked for at least a week's adjournment, and Mr Kelly was given bail for a week.

## MP defends White Paper vote

By Penny Symon

Political Staff

Mr Geoffrey Dods, the only Conservative MP who deliberately voted with the Government on the main motion to approve the counter-inflation White Paper, said yesterday that a large number of his colleagues had held similar views on the vote but had backed down at the last moment.

Mr Dods, MP for Hertfordshire, South-west, voted against the wishes of party managers, who had directed Conservatives to abstain, because he felt that it was at least trying to tackle the terrifying problem of inflation, and that the policy, though not perfect by any means, deserved support. He said:

"There is nothing so important as trying to stop inflation, and I did not think it was right that we should abstain on this matter. The very strong feeling in the country is that something must be seen to be done, and this White Paper is a step forward. When you have a situation where the whole structure is in danger of coming apart at the seams you must take a positive stand, which is what I did. I am proud of what I did, and I know that there were very substantial numbers of Conservative MPs who felt the same as I did."

Mr Dods said he had decided to vote in the policy about a week before the debate, and had told his constituency and the whips of the decision.

He told his party's line the next night when the Opposition abstained on the division against the second reading of the Remuneration, Charges and Grants Bill, the legislation that underpins the pay policy. The only Conservative to vote with the Government in that division was Mr David Mudd, MP for Falmouth and Camborne.

He had abstained on the vote to approve the White Paper earlier because he regarded it more as a statement of government thinking. The underpinning legislation was the important thing, and the White Paper almost an irrelevance, he added.

## Hastings chess event saved

From Harry Golombek

Chess Correspondent

Hastings

The Hastings International Chess Congress committee decided yesterday to go ahead with arrangements for the fifty-first international chess congress, from December 29 to January 15. The decision was made possible by a donation of £5,000 by Zetters International Pools.

At one time it had been feared that the event would either not take place or else have to be held on a much more modest scale. More money will still have to be raised, through public subscriptions.

## Jenkins assurance on new pop festival site

By a Staff Reporter

Mr Jenkins, Home Secretary, said yesterday that the proposed pop festival due to start at Watchfield, near Swindon, on August 23 would be called off if medical and sanitary facilities did not meet the requirements of the Thames Water Authority.

The Home Office announced last week that it had given permission for the festival, but only if it was held at Watchfield, near Windsor Great Park as planned by the organizers. A festival at Windsor last year ended in violence between police and fans.

Mr Jenkins gave his assurance to local representatives who met him to protest about the choice of site, and the short notice they had been given.

They were led by Mr Airey Neave, MP for Abingdon, who is now considering referring the issue to the Ombudsman. He said it would be impossible to achieve the standards necessary to prevent damage to the water supply in time. Mr Jenkins had given no assurance that enough money would be forthcoming, it

## Italy is almost sure to win bridge title

By Our Bridge Correspondent

At the conclusion of the twentieth round of the European Open Bridge Championship, Italy maintained an almost unassailable lead and interest centred on likely runners-up.

Beating Yugoslavia 17-3, Italy's total points went to 308. France lost to Switzerland 9-11, to remain in second place with 277 points. Britain beat Germany 19-1, to take its total points to 268.

Leading scores: Italy 308, France 277, Britain 268, Israel 252, Poland 244, Denmark 243, Norway 239.

Italy and Britain continued to dominate the women's event. Italy beat Norway 15-5 and Britain defeated Spain by the same score, thus taking their total points to 183 each from 12 matches.

Leading scores: Italy 188, Britain 188, Ireland 148, Austria 146, Sweden 143, Denmark 142.

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## Firm date for Commons' summer break

By Our Political Editor

Parliament's summer recess will begin not later than Friday, August 8. That date was given to the Commons yesterday by Mr Short, Leader of the House. He did not announce the Government's provisional arrangement to reassemble Parliament for a month's overspill to the session on October 13 before the new session starts on November 7 or 8.

The unusually long overspill is needed to clear the accumulation of Bills on the way to Royal Assent. Government business managers still hope to carry the Industrial Bill, the 11 per cent book before the recess, but it is clear that the controversial Community Land Bill and the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Bill will have to be left for the overspill.

After months of discussions there is still no agreement between Mr Bowden, Secretary of State for Employment, and Lord Goodman on the reformatting of the closed-shop provisions for journalists.

## Tories attack plan to restrict growth of local council services to 1%

By Christopher Warman

Local Government Correspondent

The Government's intention to restrict the growth of local government services to 1 per cent next year came under attack from Conservative members of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities in London yesterday.

Alderman A. G. Taylor (Sutton) said the association should warn the Government that the limit looked impossible to achieve.

He expressed concern, echoing that of the Association of County Councils on Wednesday, that while local government had been given the 11 per cent figure by the Chancellor, Mr Healey, figures of 2 per cent for education and 21 per cent for the social services had been reported.

"We are told that housing is sacrosanct, and I imagine

that transport too is likely to be sacrosanct. If these are going to be sacrosanct there is no way in which local authorities can be kept within the ceiling of 1 per cent."

Mr Taylor said they had to be quite certain that the yardsticks laid down for local government were achievable. "If they are not, there is the danger that the ratepayers will believe that they have been conned, not by Government but by us."

Mr J. Withnall (Walsall) and the Government could use local government to cut its own throat. Sir Robert Thomas (Greater Manchester), chairman of the association, said they stood behind the Government in the fight against inflation. Some of the medicine was unpleasant but they recognized that it was necessary for the good of the country. He acknowledged the difficulty created by the various

figures of growth, which the association is attempting to clarify with the Government.

Further criticism of government policy came from Mr G. M. Thornton (Wirral), who said the Community Land Bill was unwelcome.

He said that while, in the long term, more than 12,000 extra staff would be required, local authorities were to be expected to implement the legislation with their existing staffs. Yet the Dobry report on development controls had recently said that planning staffs were 30 per cent under strength.

Mr Thornton asked the association to urge the Government to postpone the Bill at what he called this "inappropriate time" but his amendment was rejected. Mr Robert said: "It is the Government's intention with our support I hope, to proceed with this new power given to local government."

## News industry 'should form redundancy plan'

By Our Political Staff

Newspaper proprietors, the unions and the Government should together consider introducing a variation of the special voluntary severance scheme introduced in the docks.

Mr Christopher Tugendhat, Conservative MP for the City of London and Westminster, South, made that suggestion to the Institute of Journalists yesterday. He said that under the scheme the Government would help the industry to provide a capital sum plus a further amount for each year's service to those made redundant.

## Move to reject Clay Cross Bill amendments

By Our Political Staff

The Government will be called on to reject the Lords amendments to the so-called Clay Cross Bill at a special meeting of Labour backbenchers next week.

Amendments inserted by the Lords to the Housing Finance (Special Provisions) Bill are expected to be debated by the Commons the week after next, and Mr Crosland, Secretary of State for the Environment, has yet to explain the Government's attitude.

The amendments left the Bill a shadow of its former self.

## Open verdict on peer's son who fell over cliff

A coroner recorded an open verdict yesterday on Mr Richard Peake, aged 21, son of Lord Ingloby, who fell to his death over a cliff at Beachy Head, Sussex.

Mr John Dodd, the East Sussex coroner, said: "I must be satisfied beyond all reasonable doubt when a person's life ends in this way before I bring in a verdict of suicide." He said it was probable Mr Peake had not realized that he was so near the edge of the cliffs.

Mr Anthony Watkins, aged 26, a friend, said he had clung to Mr Peake to prevent him from falling over the edge.

## Unions urged to cooperate with Government

Continued from page 1

set inflation under control and the economy expanding again.

Speaking at the Yorkshire regional committee meeting, Mr Jones said the Government's imposition of a flat-rate pay rise of 26 a week for the coming year was less than the TUC wanted, and added:

"But it is the best the TUC could negotiate within the framework of the Government's requirements. We remain strongly opposed to statutory wage control, particularly any suggestion of criminal sanctions against workers."

Statutory wage control has only worsened our economic predicament in the past, and in many ways is a cause of our present weakness. That is why we believe this voluntary policy must be made to work.

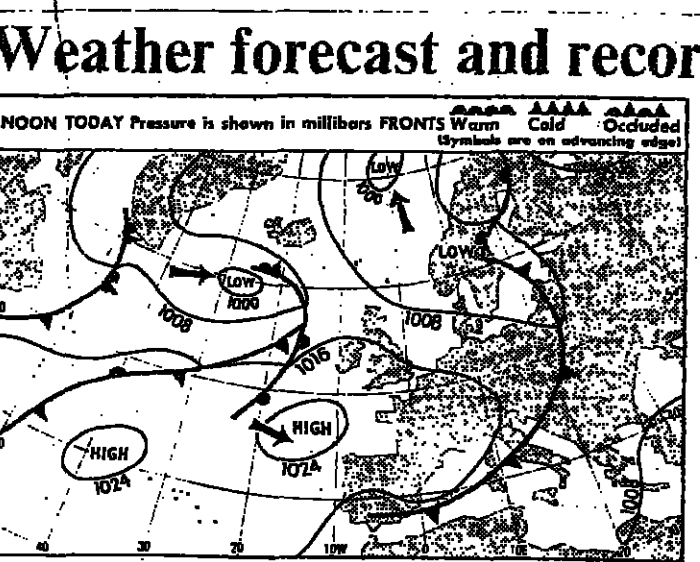
The 26 across the board is simple and easy to apply. It does not allow all the exceptions and interpretations which would sink alternative policies. It is fair and socially just in application. The greatest benefit goes to the lowest-paid. The greatest sacrifice is required of those who

can best afford it. There is considerable support for this policy. It is fair, it is reasonable, and it can be operated without any cheating. Union solidarity and unity will ensure its success.

Mr Jones concluded his blunt speech with a strongly political appeal for backing for the Wilson Administration. He said the stark fact was that if the unions wanted to keep Labour in office it was necessary to go along with these measures, and to urge improvements when possible.

The unions had not got all they wanted from the Government, and would continue to seek selective import controls and a prices freeze, but the Government had enacted a respectable quality of highly necessary legislation in its first 18 months of office. He continued:

"It is committed to further legislation of vital importance to the trade union movement and the economy. The Industry Bill and



Today

Sun rises: 5.13 am Sun sets: 9.0 pm  
Moon rises: 7.49 am Moon sets: 9.28 pm

Last quarter: July 31.  
Lighting up: 9.30 pm to 4.44 am.  
High water: London Bridge, 4.3 am, 7.0m (21.0ft); 4.13 pm, 7.0m (22.9ft).  
Ayr, 4.0m (13.1ft); 4.13 pm, 7.0m (22.9ft).  
Dover, 4.3 am, 6.3m (20.8ft); 1.19 pm, 6.5m (21.7ft).  
Hull, 8.12 am, 7.1m (23.2ft); 8.46 pm, 6.9m (22.5ft).  
Liverpool, 1.11 am, 6.1m (20.0ft); 1.34 pm, 6.7m (22.0ft).

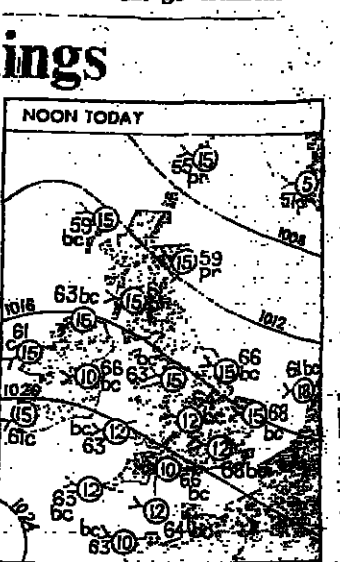
A complex depression will remain to the W of Norway and a trough of low pressure will move from the Atlantic into W districts of the British Isles.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:  
London, East Anglia, SE, central, S, E, central N England, Midlands, Channel Islands: Mostly dry, sunny spells especially early in day, rather cloudy later; wind W, moderate; max temp 19°C (66°F).  
NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: Mainly dry, bright spells but cloudier later, perhaps occasional rain in places; wind W backing SW, moderate; max temp 17°C (63°F).  
Dorset: S districts will be mainly dry and warm with sunny spells, occasional drizzle and hill fogs likely in SW. N districts will be changeable with rain at times, and temp near normal.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind NW strong backing W fresh, sea moderate or rough.  
English Channel (E), St. George's Channel: Wind NW, moderate, backing SW fresh; sea slight or moderate.  
Irish Sea: Wind W, moderate, backing SW fresh; sea slight or moderate.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: G, cloud, L, fair; rain, S, sun.

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Precip
London	18	W	100	0.2
Edinburgh	15	W	100	0.1
Belfast	14	W	100	0.1
Cardiff	16	W	100	0.1
Birmingham	17	W	100	0.1
Manchester	16	W	100	0.1
Sheffield	15	W	100	0.1
Leeds	15	W	100	0.1
Nottingham	16	W	100	0.1
Coventry	17	W	100	0.1
Bristol	18	W	100	0.1
Bath	19	W	100	0.1
Exeter	18	W	100	0.1
Plymouth	17	W	100	0.1
London SW	19	W	100	0.1
London SE	20	W	100	0.1
London E	21	W	100	0.1
London W	22	W	100	0.1
London NW	23	W	100	0.1
London NE	24	W	100	0.1
London SW	25	W	100	0.1
London SE	26	W	100	0.1
London E	27	W	100	0.1
London W	28	W	100	0.1
London NW	29	W	100	0.1
London NE	30	W	100	0.1



At the resorts

24 hours to 6 pm, July 24

COAST

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Precip
London	18	W	100	0.2
Edinburgh	15	W	100	0.1
Belfast	14	W	100	0.1
Cardiff	16	W	100	0.1
Birmingham				



## HOME NEWS

## Government to announce closure of 13 colleges and all-round cut in number of trainee teachers

By David Hencke, of *The Times Higher Education Supplement*.

The Government will announce the closure of 13 colleges of education next month. The announcement is expected to be made in a circular issued by the Department of Education and Science.

The colleges are Alnwick; Darlington; Wensworth; Castle; Barnsley; Radbrook; Shrewsbury; St. Paul's; Rugby; St. Peter's; Salley; Mary Ward; Nottingham; Coloma; West Wickham; Putney; Bury; Luton; Saffron; Walden; Culham; Abingdon; Hockley; Bishop's; Storrford; and Sittingbourne.

Darlington, St. Peter's, Culham, Hockley and Sittingbourne might be re-opened; their future is still officially under consideration. The

teacher-training department at Huddersfield Polytechnic, which was also scheduled to close, was re-opened last week.

The circular will also indicate that the number of trainee teachers should be reduced in every college and polytechnic department of education in Britain. The figures will be in line with government policy to cut teacher-training places by 50,000 in the next six years.

Under the scheme the smallest training unit will be at Peterborough, where the annex of Kesteven College of Education will be kept open for 135 students. Other small training units of 200 students will be retained at St. Mary's College, Bangor, and Bangor Normal College.

The largest training centre will be at the Roehampton Institute of Higher Education, in south-west London. The four

voluntary colleges in the federation will keep 1,500 of their 3,000 teacher-training students.

Although 13 closures are fewer than the 30 predicted in March by Mr. Prentice, the former Secretary of State for Education and Science, the circular implies that there might be more closures in future. In some cases two or more colleges have been asked to share a total number of students. In those cases the figure is often so small that it is unlikely that training can be maintained on both campuses.

In addition, the figures include provision for in-service and induction training for teachers, and money may not be available to offer those courses. The number of trainee teachers for every college and polytechnic department are listed in *The Times Higher Education Supplement* today.

## Steps taken to prevent British beef 'mountain'

By Hugh Clayton, Agricultural Correspondent.

Measures to discourage the growth of a beef "mountain" in Britain were announced in the Commons yesterday by Mr. Peart, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. They arose from the decision by EEC ministers in Brussels to revalue the "green pound", a move that Mr. Peart said would raise British beef prices by 1p in the pound.

Target prices paid for beef, which ensure that farmers' returns fall so low that they sell into storage, will fall from the present £22.75 a live cwt to £21.90 in September and then rise in four stages to £25.75 in February next year.

It is important that this fact should be reflected in autumn sales for calves and store cattle", Mr. Peart said. Ministers want to avoid a rush to slaughter unfinished animals in the autumn.

He added that the intervention price for beef would increase by at least £1 a live cwt in the spring and that he intended to press for a satisfactory beef regime for Britain next year. The target price would reach a peak in May next. The target price makes intervention almost redundant by making up actual returns to a fixed level through a fixed and a moving premium.

A rise in the price of sugar beet in £13.11 a ton from £12.46 was also imminent, Mr. Peart said. With only one transport allowance that should raise the return to farmers to £16.75. He added that the intervention prices for a ton of wheat and barley would rise in September to £54.90 and £47.60 respectively.

The Brussels package was attacked yesterday by Mr. Bill Newton-Clarke, chairman of the Meat Manufacturers' Association. He said:

It is not enough. Under EEC rules Continental producers will still receive subsidies on the piglets they export to Britain of 10 to 25 per cent according to the product, whereas our own home producers receive no such subsidy for the goods they supply to the same shops.

Irish subsidy: The government of the Irish Republic decided yesterday to ensure that consumers would not pay any of the extra price increases caused by the devaluation of the "green pound". It announced a £2.5m subsidy and said that some of the cost would have to come from agriculture. The Irish Farmers' Association called for an immediate meeting with Mr. Mark Clinton, Minister for Agriculture.

## New lighthouse

A new lighthouse, costing £70,000, is to be opened today at Bull Point, Morthebe, north Devon.



A bronze statue of John Wesley being removed from its plinth at City Road, Finsbury, London, for cleaning.

## Concern over dockland development talks

From John Young, Planning Reporter, Bristol.

A joint committee of Avon Council and six districts in the county meets today to discuss the future of 186 acres of dockland in Bristol.

The docks are due to close in 1980, and it is felt that an imaginative scheme would help to offset the large office blocks and urban roads that have replaced the old commercial centre.

But several local organizations, including the civic society and the chamber of commerce, are concerned that city officials have started negotiations with developers without waiting for an overall plan. Parallels are being drawn with the controversy some years ago over the Wine Street area, which was designated for a civic centre but was sold off

piecemeal to property companies.

Mr. Peter Floy, the civic society's chairman, said it would be highly irresponsible to permit any redevelopment before a plan has been agreed. But councillors are keen to get things moving before the whole area becomes derelict, and property owners are clearly concerned that the Community Land Bill will soon become law.

Four large sites have been earmarked for development, one of which would provide new law courts. Mr. R. J. Steen, the city planning officer, describes them as isolated pockets which would not harm any subsequent schemes.

A development study was produced by Casson, Conder and Partners in 1972. But they emphasized at the time that it was not a firm plan.

## Airport liquor price raised by average of 16%

By Arthur Reed.

Duty-free liquor prices went up by an average of 16 per cent from yesterday at five airports run by the British Airports Authority. They were Heathrow, Gatwick, Stansted, Prestwick and Glasgow.

A standard bottle of whisky now costs £1.70 at the airports, compared with between £1.25 and £1.95 in High Street shops. Air passengers will now have to pay £2.25 for a 1-litre bottle

of whisky, containing a third more than the standard size. The authority said those were the first increases in duty-free prices since April last year. They were a reflection of rises in manufacturing and operating costs.

The price of a litre bottle of gin is increased from £1.95 to £2.35 (approximate cost in the High Street, £4.60), vodka from £1.95 to £2.25 (£4.85), rum from £1.25 to £2.45 (£5.50), and cognac from £4.25 to £4.95 (£7.15).

## Union talks at 'The Observer'

By Our Labour Editor.

Shopfloor officials of two printing unions, the National Graphical Association and the National Society of Operative Printers, Graphical and Media Personnel (Natsop), had talks yesterday with the management of *The Observer* on proposed redundancies.

I understand that the paper wants to make about 70 Natsop members redundant and to cut the pay of those remaining by £3 a week. Reductions on a similar scale are sought among other groups.

## Canterbury Cathedral displays its treasures

From Philip Howard, Canterbury.

Today Canterbury Cathedral opens to the public for the first time in its history. It has been guarded from the dawn of Christianity in Britain. The Mother Church of the Anglican Communion is mounting a rich exhibition of its history in its eleventh-century western crypt, which is one of the oldest and finest examples of Norman architecture in the country.

It is claimed that it is the first full-scale exhibition in a cathedral crypt, but in fact St. Paul's has a smaller, temporary exhibition in its crypt of its rebuilding after the Great Fire.

Proceeds from the Canterbury exhibition will go to the appeal for £3.5m, which the cathedral needs urgently to save its masonry and stained glass. The cathedral's own treasury has been augmented for the occasion by loans from the British Museum, Lambeth Palace and

other national repositories of ecclesiastical riches.

The exhibition traces the 14 centuries of Christianity at Canterbury, the building and rebuilding of the cathedral, and the men associated with the history that has been made under the shadow of the Angel Steeple, known as Bell Tower, the Saxons' quietest tower in Christendom.

Exhibits include the most important known piece of 10th-century jewelry, unearthed in the precincts in 1957, and known as the King's Saxon brooch. The Saxon brooch of gold and silver, five inches in diameter, with gold filigree and niello inlay, provides a possible link with the Viking invasion of Kent.

Roman silver spoons marked with chi-rho monogram show signs of having been in domestic use when they were buried at the time of the Saxon raids in AD 400. They are the earliest evidence of a Christian community at Canterbury.

Objects from the cathedral never previously shown to the public include the only known pieces of twelfth-century plate in England. The superb silver and gold chalice and paten were found in the tomb of the formidable Archbishop Hubert Walter when the Victorians opened it on the dubious pretext of identifying the remains inside. The remains were found dressed in full pontificals, which are also on display, from orphrey to huckles, to delight enthusiasts for vestments.

The ingenious silver-and-gold Saxon sundial with which the cathedral monks calculated the dates of services in the tenth century is shown for the first time. It is claimed to be the oldest timepiece in the English-speaking world.

Other coup-d'oeil exhibits include the funeral effigy of the Black Prince, who is buried in his favourite cathedral, and a selection of early medieval badges of Thomas Becket bought as

## 'Unbrotherly' side to union poaching case

A High Court judge was told yesterday that a case he is trying would expose unbrotherly, archaic and unsightly features of the British trade union movement. The case involves two unions—Apex, the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer Staff, and the ASTMS, the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs.

Apex, the staff association of the General Accident fire and life assurance group. Mr. Anthony Lester, for Mr. Charles Rothwell, chairman of Saga, said the proceedings were unprecedented in the annals of trade unions and the rule of law in Britain.

As the facts unfold it will be regrettable to become apparent that this case highlights some distinctly unbrotherly, archaic and unsightly features about British trade unions", he told Mr. Justice Foster.

There has been keen rivalry between Saga and the ASTMS to get members and bargaining rights in the General Accident group. When Saga made a binding contract with Apex to transfer its members to that union, Mr. Lester, general secretary of the ASTMS, complained to the TUC that the proposed merger breached the Bridlington principles, drawn up to avoid inter-union poaching disputes.

The committee decided that Apex was in breach of the relevant Bridlington principle and that the ASTMS was the proper union for General Accident staff. It told Apex to

unscramble the merger arrangements.

However, since Apex and Saga had then entered into a binding contract for a merger, Saga insisted that the contract should be duly performed". Mr. Lester said. The merger went ahead and 3,000 Saga members were transferred to Apex last August.

But Apex, faced with the threat of being called before the TUC General Council, told Mr. Murray that it had decided to comply with the committee ruling and would give six weeks' notice to all Saga members, ending their membership.

Mr. Rothwell, the court heard, was challenging the validity of the TUC model rule that Apex was seeking to use to expel the Saga members. The rule was designed to give decisions of the disputes committee a binding effect on member unions.

Mr. Lester, argued however, that Apex was not lawfully entitled to expel Mr. Rothwell or other Saga members. He gave four reasons:

1. The TUC model rule was contrary to public policy and therefore void.
2. The disputes committee decision was unlawful and outside its powers.
3. The committee had no power to find that the ASTMS was the proper union for General Accident staff.
4. The committee decision was a nullity because of a breach of the rules of natural justice and a duty to act fairly towards Apex and the members of Saga.

Mr. Rothwell wants the court to order Apex not to obey the TUC ruling. Apex also is taking legal action to stop any TUC disciplinary moves against it if Mr. Rothwell succeeds.

The hearing continues today.

## Government attacked over poorest

By Our Social Services Correspondent.

The Government was strongly attacked by the Disability Alliance yesterday for allegedly failing to protect the living standards of the poorest.

Professor Peter Townsend, chairman of the alliance, said that at the present rate of inflation the real value of the £13.30 a week pension for a single retired or disabled person, to be introduced in November, would be equivalent to £10.50 in July, 1974, when the pension was £10 a week.

"There are 13 million people, nearly a quarter of the population, who depend on the social wages or salaries, more than the entire membership of the trade unions", Professor Townsend said. "The disabled are a major group among them."

Professor Townsend was speaking at a press conference in London which launched a policy statement on the case for a comprehensive income scheme for Britain's million and a half disabled people. A draft of the statement has already been discussed with ministers at the Department of Health and Social Security. The proposals would cost £417m, an average of £5 a week per disabled person.

Professor Townsend said the proposals could be financed by less than 1p in the pound on income tax. Poverty and Disability Disability Alliance, 56 Portland Place, London, W1 50p.

## In brief

## Stable lads' dispute over

The Newmarket stable lads' dispute ended yesterday after three months with an announcement by the Newmarket Trainers' Federation that it had accepted the terms of a six-point settlement.

The struggle, which brought more than 40 dismissals of stable lads, included a demonstration at Royal Ascot, picketing and disruption at various meetings as the bitterness increased.

Levy board statement, page 9

## Film case adjourned

A private prosecution brought by Mr. Raymond Blackburn, the anti-pornography campaigner, against the British Board of Film Censors and a cinema chain for showing *Language of Love* was adjourned at Bow Street Magistrates' Court yesterday until August 1.

## Chambermaid for trial

Sandra Millett, aged 22, a chambermaid, of Broughton Road, Banbury, was committed to the custody of the Crown Court by North Oxfordshire magistrates at Banbury yesterday, for trial on a charge of murdering Miss Helen Joan Bleach, her room mate, on June 2.

## Seal cull approved

The National Trust has been granted a licence by the Home Office to kill a thousand grey seal cubs, their pups and 250 bulls and cows, in the Farne Islands off the coast of Scotland. The reduction is necessary because of the steep rise in numbers.

## Boy sent to detention

A schoolboy aged 15 who punched a woman meal supervisor, aged 57, breaking her cheekbone in three places, was sent to detention for three months by Birmingham Juvenile Court yesterday.

## Warning to pilots

The Ministry of Defence has ordered military pilots to avoid the area of Criccieth, Gwynedd, during the six-day Royal National Eisteddfod starting there on August 4.

## Pacemaker hazard

Air passengers with heart pacemakers were told yesterday not to go through American-made electronic security checks at Heathrow airport, London, after six incidents in which pacemakers were affected.

An interview with the new secretary of the Social Science Research Council is published today in *The Times Higher Education Supplement*. There is also a summer in Cambridge and a review of the new book by Raymond Aron.

## 'Prodigal' spending on education under attack

By Our Education Correspondent.

The "unbridled largesse" squandered on British education has produced the most functionally inadequate educated class of any big industrialized country, Professor A. J. Merritt, of the London Graduate School of Business Studies, states.

He says that "prodigal" sums have largely accounted for the 44 per cent increase in public spending over the past year. That has underlined the economic consequences of a public service industry of 4,500,000 employees, of whom well over a quarter are in educational services. Writing in today's issue of *The Times Educational Supplement*, Professor Merritt adds:

As the secular religion of modern times, the education profession bears many resemblances to the medieval church, not least in the exploitation of its very spiritual and cultural achievements to conceal, and where it cannot conceal to justify, its patent and enormous abuses.

This ever enlarging public sector (educational services alone were forecast to increase by more than half a million over the decade to 1981) deprives industry of badly needed, intelligent and gifted labour and saps management efficiency.

He says the huge public sector is mainly contributing to inflation and high unemployment. Spending on education in 1974-75 is expected to amount to £3,600m at 1974 prices and to grow at 2.3 per cent a year in real terms over the next four years.

Professor Merritt estimates the total cost of a university education at about £15,000 in 1972. Only a fraction of the capital cost is ever recovered.

## Postgraduate studies 'should be expanded'

By Tim Devlin, Education Correspondent.

An important discussion document on the future of postgraduate education published today says the numbers of postgraduates should be expanded rather than threatened by government economies.

A study group of vice-chancellors under Sir Derman Christopherson, of Durham University, recommends that overseas students should be charged higher fees than home students. That would be a significant shift in policy if accepted by the Committee of Vice-Chancellors as a whole.

The group also recommends that postgraduate grants should be increased in relation to undergraduate student grants to take account of postgraduates being unable to gain employment during the summer vacations and studying 46 weeks of the year.

It says that parents should not have to contribute to the cost of the education of postgraduate students on teacher-training courses and calls for more assessment of PhD courses and students to ensure that standards are maintained.

But the basic argument in the report is that "students who are qualified, suitable and keen to proceed beyond the first de-

gree level should be enabled to do so".

Introducing the report yesterday Sir Derman said that in a recent debate in Parliament it had been suggested that universities were putting too many resources into postgraduate work that was unplanned and unmatched to the needs of the country.

He rejected the criticisms, adding that the figures for 1972-73 showed that there were 46,100 postgraduates, nearly a fifth of all students.

Just under a quarter were on professional courses, mostly training to be teachers, and many of those in specialist subjects. "There is still a great shortage of that kind of teacher, despite an over-abundance of teachers as a whole."

Sir Derman also said that 10 years ago most overseas students came from underdeveloped countries. "Today many come from countries that are better off than we are." But he added that a university could not afford to be provincial and parochial. "If we recruited from one nation only we would become intellectually narrow-minded."

Postgraduate Education (Committee of Vice-Chancellors, 29 Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9EZ).

## Welsh schools selection

By Our Education Correspondent.

More than a third of Welsh secondary schools are likely to be selecting their children at 16 on academic grounds even though the principle has been kept to rid itself of selection at 11-plus.

That fact emerges from a survey of 140 of the 262 secondary schools in Wales, carried out in the summer term of 1974.

by the National Union of Teachers in Wales.

It found that at 32 schools entry to the sixth form was not automatic. At 47 (32 comprehensive, 10 grammar and five secondary modern) the main criterion for sixth form entry was academic.

Selection for entry into Sixth Forms in Secondary Schools in Wales (National Union of Teachers, Welsh Office, 34 Queen Street, Cardiff, free).

## Woman in Whittle hoax jailed for four years

From Our Correspondent, Gloucester.

Dorothy Davis-James, aged 29, was sentenced to jail for four years yesterday for plotting with a man to obtain the £50,000 Lesley Whittle ransom.

She broke down at Gloucester Crown Court when Judge Bulger told her: "We think this was a most wicked crime."

The judge said she had tried to relieve the desperation and abhorrence the community must have felt about the crime. Mrs Davis-James, of Huxley Road, Gloucester, was convicted by a jury after a five-day trial of conspiring with a man named Brian Davis to obtain the £50,000 ransom if you could get it. He added that if Mr Davis had been before the court he would have received a sentence of eight years.

been arrested, was playing a practical joke.

Mr John Smyth, for the prosecution, said Mr Davis telephoned to the Whittle family coach depot in Kidderminster and demanded that the money should be left in a Gloucester subway. Mr Ronald Whittle, Lesley's brother, travelled to Gloucester with the money in a suitcase, but he never saw the case because they were scared off when they saw police officers in the area.

Passing sentence, Judge Bulger told Mrs Davis-James: "You were prepared to cash in on the distress of the Whittle family and I have no doubt you intended to obtain and enjoy the £50,000 ransom if you could get it."

The report, written by Anna Coote and Yes Gill, National Council for Civil Liberties, 50p.

## Anonymity right for rape victims urged

By Our Legal Correspondent.

Questions in court to an alleged rape victim about her sexual experience should not be allowed, a report by the Women's Rights Committee of the National Council for Civil Liberties argues.

The law should recognize that women whose purity rating is not 100 per cent are no more likely to imagine, invite or deserve rape than virgins or faithful wives", it says.

The report, written by Anna Coote and Yes Gill, sent to Mrs Justice Heilbrunn's advisory committee on the law of rape, set up by the Home Secretary last month.

Another recommendation is that all rape victims should have the right to remain anonymous in court. "The law should recognize the fact that there is still a stigma attached to rape from which the victims may suffer for years afterwards."

"Publication of victims' names also deters a great many victims from reporting to the police, the report says. The authors support the recent controversial House of Lords ruling that a man who sexually but unconsensually believes that a woman consents to intercourse is entitled to be acquitted. They reject the "distorted" view that the decision amounted to a rapist's charter."

The Rape Controversy, Anna Coote and Yes Gill, National Council for Civil Liberties, 50p.

## University posts vacant

By Our Education Correspondent.

Economic considerations have probably resulted in more than a thousand academic posts at universities being left vacant during the academic year 1974-75. A survey published today by *The Times Higher Education Supplement* shows that 16 out of 20 universities reported 380 posts left unfilled as an economy measure.

The survey also reveals a

striking deterioration in staff/student ratios. They were 1:8 in 1973-74 but many are now reporting ratios as high as 1:13 or 1:14 in some departments. St. Andrews has a ratio of 1:19 in its psychology department.

Mr Laurie Sapper, general secretary of the Association of University Teachers, said: "By a process of stealth and erosion the workloads of university teachers are being increased without any consultation whatsoever."

## Help sought for handicapped child's parents

By a Staff Reporter.

Parents of handicapped children need help as well as the children, the Centre for Educational Advance says today in evidence to the Warnock Committee set up by the Government to inquire into the education of handicapped children.

Parents are increasingly encouraged to have their handicapped children living at home so there is a corresponding need for well paid, supportive services, which would not be available unless staff providing them were better paid, it says.

The centre calls for more resources to educate and train handicapped children and more in-service training for teachers in specialist schools.

## War pensioners were paid £220m last year

By a Staff Reporter.

The Government spent £220m on war pensions last year. Although there were 17,000 fewer war pensioners than in 1973, pension increases raised expenditure by £45m.

Those figures are in a report published yesterday by the Department of Health and Social Security which says war pensioners totalled 447,000, of whom 84,000 were from the First World War, including 17 widows more than 100 years old.

The number of three-wheel invalid vehicles in use by war pensioners declined by 24 to 243. Report on War Pensioners for 1974 (Stationery Office, 80p net).

## Bacon and eggs to cost more next week

Bacon and some eggs will cost more next week because of increased wholesale rates for home and imported produce. Sides of British and imported bacon rose by about 1p a pound yesterday after weeks without change. Standard eggs rose by 2p a dozen after the heavy increases on all grades last week, some of which have not been passed on in full to shoppers.

Fine Fare, the largest retail buyer of home-produced bacon, said yesterday that it would concentrate the increase on middle cuts, which would go up by 2p or 3p a pound. Gammon and fore-end would rise by 1p in most cases. The price of middle-cut will rise by 6p a pound in Keymarkets and David Greig supermarkets because it was reduced by 4p last week. Back and streaky will

## Food prices

Hugh Clayton

rise by 2p and gammon will be unchanged.

Frozen supermarket chickens have been reduced slightly in the past week to a minimum of 26p a pound and tomatoes have dropped to a minimum of 13p, although most will cost more than 15p. Peas have dropped slightly to between 10p and 16p a pound. The first young beetroot and turnips are appearing in bunches at what-ever price the greengrocer thinks he can make. Carrots have fallen to 10p to 14p a pound, or about 14p for a bunch that usually weighs less

than a pound without its greenery. Courgettes are cheap now, but cauliflowers have risen.

New potatoes have dropped slightly more than last week to a minimum of 7p for 2lb and 8p a pound, with most costing 10p or 12p. Broad beans and strawberries are almost finished in the south.

Fresh fish is steady with cod fillers at 52p to 62p a pound and haddock fillers at about 4p a pound more. Some fish-mongers have halibut from 50p to £1.10 a pound and Canadian salmon at £1.10 to £1.30.

Miss Louise Davies, the Government's food prices consultant, said yesterday: "The best buy at the butcher's is beef." She recommended a stew of cheap forequarter beef with every vegetable that offers good value, from carrots to tomatoes.

## Judge changes sentence

A judge yesterday changed the prison sentence he had imposed on one of three defendants in a murder trial at Winchester Crown Court to a conditional discharge so that the man could be released immediately. On Wednesday Mr Justice Maise jailed two brothers for life for murdering Frank Ralphs, aged 31, a labourer, of Ash Vale, Surrey.

James Parker, aged 30, a labourer, of Reading Road, Farnborough, Hampshire, was jailed for nine months for aiding the concealment of the body. The sentence, Mr Justice Maise said, would mean his immediate release. After being told that Mr Parker had spent only six months in prison on remand and could not be released for a further month, he varied the sentence.



## WEST EUROPE

## Nine resolve to work for balanced world order

From Michael Hornsby

Brussels, July 24. The European Community has resolved to work for a "real progress towards a more balanced and equitable structure of international economic relations" and to accord particular attention to the world's poorest developing countries, for whom "specific measures" are envisaged.

The declaration is contained in a confidential 32-paragraph document approved by EEC foreign ministers here earlier this week as the basis for a common position to be adopted at the special session of the United Nations in September, which is to take stock of relations between the industrialized and developing worlds.

The document, a copy of which has been made available to *The Times*, emerged after a long and arduous debate. It reflects an attempt to reconcile the different approaches of the nine member states. West Germany, the Community's richest member, is particularly wary of collective schemes for increasing aid to developing countries.

Although the document's proposals fall well short of the more radical of the demands expressed by the countries producing raw materials, who will be presenting their own case at the United Nations session, it is seen as an important attempt to forge a joint EEC foreign policy and as a gesture towards the "new economic order" called for by the Third World.

The new initiative must also be judged in the light of hopes of reviving the ill-starred dialogue between consumers and producers, which has been almost before it had begun at the preparatory conference held in April in Paris. EEC heads of government agreed earlier this month that France should seek to reconvene the conference in September.

The dialogue has been troubled mainly because of the Third World's insistence that energy problems could not be isolated from questions related to the supply and demand of other raw materials. This broader approach has been more or less endorsed by the EEC, though there are still some important differences of emphasis between member countries.

As outlined in the new document, the EEC intends to pursue what it sees as two complementary approaches. The first involves measures, such as product-by-product commodity agreements, designed to restrict excessive price fluctuations and the second "international action" to stabilize the export earnings of raw materials producers.

On the first, the EEC document says that the aim must be to ensure price levels that are "equitable for consumers and remunerative for producers, encouraging a long-term balance between production and expanding consumption." This is close to the formula proposed by Mr. Wilson at the Commonwealth Conference in Jamaica.

On the second approach, the EEC pledges to "promote and participate in international action" aimed at stabilizing the export earnings of the poorest developing countries and calls for an "improvement of the compensatory financing mechanisms of the International Monetary Fund in favour of these countries."

## Britain remains hesitant on aid to regions

From David Blake

Dublin, July 24

Mr. George Thompson, the European Commissioner for Regional Policy, today warned members of the Community not to use the regional fund's money as a way of cutting back on their own efforts to help regions.

Mr. Thompson told the conference on "Europe after the Referendum," organized by the *Financial Times*, *Irish Times*, and *Berlingske Tidende*, of Copenhagen, that the whole future of the Community regional fund—which is to be reviewed in 1977—will depend on members adhering to the pledge which they made to use extra money for regional assistance, instead of treating it as a way of cutting down

## Move to fulfil pledge on New Zealand butter

From Our Own Correspondent

Brussels, July 24

The fulfilment of the European Community's pledge to safeguard British imports of New Zealand dairy products—the main reason for the Community's main renegotiation demands—was taken an important stage further in Brussels today.

The European Commission ended recommendations that New Zealand should continue to be allowed to send Britain a total allocation of 363,000 tons of butter between 1978 and 1980. This figure is based on the level of present supplies which are running at about 121,000 tons a year.

The Commission has not yet

## Peer's daughter fined £80

Gerona, July 24.—A Spanish court today fined Lady Katherine Lambart, the 20-year-old daughter of Lord Cavan, 10,000 pesetas (£80) for stealing a statuette from the Salvador Dali museum.

Her friend, Mr. Andrew Browning, a former cavalry officer, was fined 20,000 pesetas (£160) on the same charge. Both were freed immediately and were to leave for Britain later today. They had been held in jail since May 24, when museum guards detained them.

Lady Katherine told the court they had had wine for lunch and some brandies afterwards. Then each of them took a tablet of valium, a tranquiliser, without realizing the effect of the mixture. —Reuter.



In Hannibal's footsteps: A group of British soldiers passing through a village south of Grenoble yesterday at the beginning of an attempt to retrace one of the great military exploits of history—Hannibal's march with his elephants and 35,000 men over the French Alps into Italy in 218 BC during

the Second Punic War. Led by Lieutenant Gerry Boyle, the 20 men, all from the depot regiment of the Royal Corps of Transport at Aldershot, hope to reach Crissolo in northern Italy on about August 10. The expedition is code-named "Exercise Jumbo Trek".

## Italian party in search of leader

From Peter Nichols

Rome, July 24

With a deliberate slowness far removed from the urgent requirements of government, the Christian Democratic Party today painfully reached the second stage of what is supposed to be its rejuvenation.

In four days of intrigue and manoeuvre, the party's National Council brought about the departure from the secretaryship of Senator Amintore Fanfani. Today, the 200 or so national councillors went back into plenary session to choose a new secretary.

Responsible newspapers today expressed doubts about the way

in which Senator Fanfani was removed. There is widespread whatever judgment one ascribes to it in political terms, was carried out as a conspiracy by the leaders of the party's main factions.

It was not an open affair and what about the ruling party and the country requires more of a more straightforward approach to the problems of government.

Indicative, whether true or not, was the rumour emerging today from the National Council that the party's largest faction was insisting on the acceptance of its own candidate as party secretary or its representatives

in the Government would be withdrawn.

The deeply sad element in this rumour is that Senator Fanfani was accused of threatening the downfall of the Government if he should be ousted, and his suggestion was attacked in the press here as unwarranted pressure.

Now the politicians who engineered his fall are said to be adopting the same tactic.

The third stage of the party's renewal, if it is ever reached, will have to go beyond personalities. One of the lessons of the economic recession is that the institutions of the state urgently require reform.

## Lisbon worried about military discipline

From Jose Shercliff

Lisbon, July 24

Discipline in the Portuguese Army is the main topic of discussion today at an army assembly in Lisbon.

General Carlos Fabiao, Chief of the Army Staff, who is presiding, told reporters before the meeting that the question of discipline was the most delicate problem in the army and in national life. He said he and his colleagues would try to find the best way to re-establish discipline.

It is likely that the 120 officers and men may discuss the political situation, which remains serious. General Fabiao had postponed an official visit to Britain to be present at this meeting and at the assembly of the Armed Forces Movement tomorrow.

The crisis of authority in Portugal has been emphasized frequently recently, particularly by Dr. Mario Soares, the Socialist Party leader.

Unrest continues throughout the country. About 2,000 rural workers in their north have put in a formal application for assistance on development.

Behind the British delay lies the question of what the real goal of getting money from the fund should be.

Britain wanted to get back as much as possible of the large sum which it pays to the Community, most of which goes to subsidize the common agricultural policy, which is of little benefit to Britain. The Treasury is thought to want the aid to go directly into its coffers.

## Heath call for Europe elections by 1978

From Our Own Correspondent

Brussels, July 24

Mr. Heath said today that the question of introducing direct elections to the European Parliament by mid-1978 should be tackled without delay.

Direct elections could "bring in a number of people of high quality who did not want to get involved in national politics or party politics of that kind, but would feel they had a good job to perform by going into a European parliament," he said at a Strasbourg press conference.

Direct elections, Mr. Heath thought, would also make people in the member states more aware of their role in the activities to a much greater extent.

To remain "workable", a directly-elected European parliament would need to be kept to a reasonable size, Mr. Heath said. He suggested that its members might continue to sit in their national parliaments, where they would "listen to people's views and express their own views but not have the right to vote."

At a later private meeting with Young Conservatives, Mr. Heath was one of four guest speakers. He was understood to have discussed the need for coordination in European foreign policy, particularly on energy matters, as well as relations between the EEC, the Third World and the United States.

## Deaths in ferry fire total 11

Toulon, July 24.—The final death toll in the fire yesterday on board the ferry boat *Venus des Iles* was placed at 11 today.

Eight people were severely burnt and 27 slightly injured.

The authorities said no reports of missing persons had been received. The ferry was sailing from Toulon to an island resort when fire broke out.—AP.

## Report of Majorca hotel evacuation order denied

From Harry Debelius

Madrid, July 24

Allegations that British tourists had been ordered to evacuate a Majorca hotel in danger of collapse were rejected today.

Denying newspaper reports, the manager of the Carrousel Hotel in Palma Nova said in a telephone conversation with a reporter of *The Times* in Madrid: "The situation is totally normal. There has been no order from any authority to evacuate the hotel."

The manager, Señor J. Morille, admitted that there is a crack in an outside wall of the hotel, but he said, it had been there since 1971, the year in which the one-star hotel was inaugurated. He added that a delegation of government officials and architects had inspected the building today. Their report was expected within a few days.

The hotel, formerly owned by Clarksons, reopened on February 25 under the ownership of a Spanish company, Hoteles Agrupados. The 320-room hotel was full at present, with about 500 guests, the manager said.

Another spokesman for the

hotel said: "It is true that a number of people checked out yesterday. It is also true that a number of people checked in yesterday. As far as we know, nobody left before his normal scheduled departure date."

In Palma, Señor José Luis Pérez de Rozas, the president of the provincial hoteliers' association, said: "There has not been any order to evacuate the hotel. As far as I know there is no problem." A safety investigation had been carried out some time ago, shortly after the hotel opened, to find out whether the crack reflected any dangerous structural defect, and approval had been given for normal operation.

He denied suggestions that the hotel had recently been re-opened especially to handle an overflow of tourists.

Alas, July 24.—A group of 40 British tourists from Brighton had to return home after thieves had stolen all their belongings during the night from their bus parked in a street of Alas, on the Italian Riviera, police said today.

The police valued the belongings at 10m lire (£6,660).—AP.

## OVERSEAS

## Outlook poor for early agreement over Sinai as Egyptians and Israelis remain poles apart

From Moshe Brilliant

Tel Aviv, July 24

Egypt's counter-proposal for a second stage disengagement agreement differs from Israel's in all aspects apart from the negotiation duration. It was learned today.

This evening the Israel negotiating team, the Prime Minister and the Ministers of Defence and Foreign Affairs, began studying the proposal which has been forwarded from Washington.

Obviously the stage is not yet ready for another Middle East shuttle by Dr. Kissinger, the American Secretary of State.

Some officials said the gap on nearly all issues were so wide that there was little prospect of bridging them. Others, however, said the Egyptian proposals were "well considered" taking into account that they were presented as the final word but as a bargaining position.

Cairo's agreement to the extension of the mandate of the United Nations peace-keeping force for three months was seen to indicate a desire to continue negotiations. Now the final word but as a bargaining position.

Regarding the duration of the proposed pact, the Egyptian

proposal was reported to be close to Israel's in providing for the extension of the United Nations emergency force's mandate for one year and undertaking through a commitment to the United States to renew it for another two years.

Egypt's disengagement plan is reported to provide for a complete Israeli withdrawal from the strategic mountain passes of Mitla and Gidi. However, for reasons they would not explain, Israel officials expressed confidence that Cairo would accept continued Israeli control of the eastern ends of the passes.

There were reported to be serious disagreements about the width of the coastal strip on the Gulf of Suez to the Abu Rudeis oil fields, which the Israelis have agreed to cede to Egypt.

Meanwhile Israelis expressed surprise at Egypt's claim that Mr. Rabin, the Prime Minister, had created a new obstruction to a settlement when he said last night there would have to be face-to-face negotiations before an interim agreement was signed. They said this was a new demand and that the American mediators had assured them there would be no problem.

Our Cairo Correspondent writes: Egyptian officials were baffled by Israel's apparent condition that it would not accept a new interim agreement for further withdrawal in the Sinai.

Sinai without direct negotiations with Egypt.

However, the officials tended to believe that Mr. Rabin's remarks were meaningless as Egyptian and Israeli delegations would have to sit at the conference table, in the presence of the United Nations and other parties, to sign and work out details of any new agreement.

This happened shortly after the 1973 war when Egyptian and Israeli officials sat in a United Nations tent on the Cairo-Suez road to discuss the implementation of the Security Council's ceasefire resolution, and again last year at the Geneva peace conference.

Never the less, Mr. Rabin's statement, according to Cairo observers, was a sour reaction to Egypt's initiative in extending the mandate of the United Nations force for another three months.

Patrick Brogan writes from Washington: Dr. Kissinger said today that he hoped that Congress would approve the sale to Jordan of \$300m (£154m) worth of anti-aircraft missiles and guns.

Opposition to the deal led the State Department to say on Tuesday that it would consider a much smaller transaction, but King Hussein said yesterday that he wanted \$300m worth of arms or more. There is a possibility that the Senate, House of Representatives will now veto the sale.

## Police reject deadline on New York pay freeze

From Nicholas Fraser

New York, July 24

Mayor Abraham Beame and the directors of "Big Mac," the Municipal Assistance Corporation, have given New York public employees unions until midnight next Tuesday to comply with a pay freeze and a programme of lay-offs designed to restore the city's fiscal credibility and enable it to raise money for the bond market.

If the unions fail to comply, the officials have indicated that statutory measures imposing the programme will be passed.

The announcement came shortly after Mr. Beame, the Governor of New York State, had broken his long-standing policy of non-interference in New York's fiscal affairs, to come out strongly in favour of a wage-freeze. "It is better to have a pay cheque than no cheque at all because a city cannot afford to pay."

New York's unions are standing firm on the principle that a pay freeze means breaking previously signed agreements and is therefore illegal. "We cannot contemplate giving up part of our contract," said Mr. Ken McFoley, of the police men's union. "We have been asked to make enough sacrifices."

Tomorrow, "Big Mac" directors are due to go to Washington to see some administration officials, including Mr. William Simon, the Secretary of the Treasury.

## Demonstrators to be tried after Athens riots

From Mario Modiano

Athens, July 24

The celebrations of the first anniversary of the restoration of Greek democracy continued in Athens today, but yesterday's prolonged and violent rioting in the capital, which left 96 people injured, has cast a shadow over the festivities.

Political leaders, trade unions and the press seem to have no doubt that the bloody incidents were provoked by agents of the fallen military junta, who had taken advantage of the demonstration mounted by building workers, had been planned in advance. The police had established the presence of "liaison" men using motor cycles to coordinate action by rioters in different parts of the city.

It was announced tonight that 15 of the 120 people arrested would be put on trial tomorrow on charges related to acts of violence.

A Government statement issued at the close of an extraordinary meeting in the inner Cabinet said that all those who organized, encouraged or advertised outdoor rallies in defiance of a police ban from today until the end of September would be prosecuted.

Greeks stopped working for two hours today to mark the fall of the junta regime one year ago. On the Pnyx, where the first democratic assembly of Athenian citizens was held in antiquity, there was a solemn gathering tonight and excerpts

from the funeral oration of Pericles were read out. Later in the stadium, there was a programme of Greek dancing.

But all the festivities did not ease the concern which now prevails, especially in view of the treason trial of 20 junta leaders due to open on Monday.

There are fears that the same elements which provoked the incidents yesterday might make another attempt to create disorders and force the Government to postpone the trial.

When the hearings were resumed today in the court martial of 21 Greek Army officers, a leading prosecution witness confirmed the charge that the defendants had planned a coup last February and dictated their terms to the Government.

Captain Demetrios Arvanitis told the court that he had been approached by defendants to join in the coup, but he had reported the conspiracy to the Defence Minister because he felt that another coup, while the Cyprus crisis remained open, could have been disastrous for the nation.

The witness said that last January he had been met in Salonika by his friend, Major Paraskevas Bolaris, one of the defendants, who had close links with the fallen dictator, General Demetrios Ioannidis.

The major had told him that officers were being persecuted and the purge of pro-junta officials was proceeding.

Major Bolaris said: "There will be an intervention." He explained that the officers involved would seize control of the State and force the Government to revise its policy.

## Russia expected to seek more grain

From Frank Vogl

US Economics Correspondent

Washington, July 24. The Soviet Union's grain crop this year could well fall 30 million tonnes below its publicly announced target level of 215 million tonnes, which, according to the United States Department of Agriculture, could lead it to increase its already large purchases of grain in Western markets.

The Department announced today that its new estimates suggest that the Soviet grain crop may total only 185 million tonnes, compared to an estimate of 195 million tonnes issued by the department just two weeks ago. The decline in the estimate is solely due to wheat, and to continuing unfavourable harvest conditions in the Soviet Union.

The lower estimate has forced the Department to impose new restrictions on American grain exporters to combat the almost certain demands from many Congressmen now that the Administration imposes limits on the volume of grain that Russia can purchase here.

Mr. Earl Butz, the Secretary of Agriculture, said here that it is "quite possible" that if the crop deterioration continues then the Soviet purchases could be in the neighbourhood of 1972 levels.

Grain prices soared ahead in 1972 as a result of Soviet purchases of 29 million tonnes of which 19 million tonnes came from the United States. Grain prices here have already increased as a result of Russian purchases this year and are now likely to rise further.

## Women priests angered by American bishop's letter

From Our Correspondent

New York, July 24

The longstanding bitterness over the ordination of women priests in the Episcopal Church came into the open again today. The Bishop of Maine, the Right Rev. Frederick Wolf, sent a letter to the 11 women who had been ordained last summer and to the three retired bishops who had performed the service, saying that their conduct had indirectly led to the death of the Bishop of Louisiana, the Right Rev. Iveson Noland, in an aircraft crash.

He had been on his way to a special meeting of the bishop's council. "I do not hold you responsible for Iveson Noland's death," the Bishop of Maine wrote. However, Iveson Noland would not have died "if that plane crash had not occurred, if you had not done what you did. That is a part by no means directly so, of the consequences of your ecclesiastical disobedience."

The bishop's letter has incensed some of its recipients. The Rev. Betty Bone Schuess, one of the women ordained, said that the letter was "a low blow."

## Luanda fighting after second truce

Luanda, July 24.—After a night of sporadic shooting

Luanda, the Angolan capital, was quiet today on the second day of the second ceasefire in a week between the two main rival liberation movements.

However, according to the Marxist Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA), a military operation was "under way" near the key road junction of Caxito, 40 miles north of Luanda.

The MPLA has gained control over most of Luanda after fierce fighting with troops of the Zaire-based National Front for the Liberation of Angola, which is holding a sixteenth summit meeting for expatriate Luanda harbour.—Reuter.

Our Nairobi Correspondent writes: Foreign ministers of the Organization of African Unity meeting in Kampala to prepare the organization's summit next week held an extra session last night because they have so far dealt with less than half the 41 points on the agenda.

After spending eight hours on the situation in Angola, they passed this item to the heads of state for consideration. No reply had been received yet to the invitation extended to the leaders of the three Angolan liberation movements to attend the summit meeting with their military commanders.

The ministers have passed to the heads of state a suggestion that tighter controls should be imposed on the supply and distribution of arms to liberation movements in Africa. Uganda suggested the creation of a committee of seven states.

The conference was reported to have rejected a suggestion

into silence and of hastening violent racial confrontation.

The attack came in a statement issued at the annual meeting of the council, which represents most Christian denominations in South Africa, with the notable exception of the powerful Dutch Reformed Church. The council also accused the Government of persecuting the church in South Africa.

The statement gave a warning that unless there was a reversal of the country's racial policies it would not be possible to achieve peace. "Instead the violence of white aggression will continue to lead inevitably to its violent rejection." The council added that the steps taken by the Government so far to dismantle racial discrimination had been "superficial."

It stated: "The Government still seems intent on proceeding

## Night curfew along border of Rhodesia

Salisbury, July 24.—The

Rhodesian authorities have imposed a 6 pm to 5 am curfew along the border with Mozambique. A Government spokesman said today that the curfew area extends for about 180 miles and is about half a mile wide.

The area covers mainly black tribal land and the authorities issued a warning that people found there during the curfew hours are in danger of being shot by the security forces.

The curfew was imposed after the disappearance of more than 250 black students from mission schools.

An American-born Rhodesian Army corporal was killed last Saturday in a clash with guerrillas. Friends of Corporal John Allan Coe, aged 22, said today his parents would arrive in Rhodesia from the United States tomorrow, or Saturday, to attend the funeral.

Corporal Coe, who was understood to have joined the Rhodesian Army about four years ago, is to be buried on Monday with full military honours.

An undisclosed number of American soldiers serving with the Rhodesian regular forces, which has started recruiting drives in several countries, a Government spokesman has declined to disclose the nationality of foreigners serving in the Army.—Reuter and Agence France-Press.

## South African churches denounce Government terror

From Nicholas Ashford

Johannesburg, July 24

In one of the toughest attacks on South African Government policy since the launching of its diplomatic offensive to seek détente with black Africa last year, and the relaxation of a number of petty apartheid regulations, the South African Council of Churches today accused the Government of "terrorizing" its opponents

into silence and of hastening violent racial confrontation.

The attack came in a statement issued at the annual meeting of the council, which represents most Christian denominations in South Africa, with the notable exception of the powerful Dutch Reformed Church. The council also accused the Government of persecuting the church in South Africa.

The statement gave a warn-

ing that unless there was a reversal of the country's racial policies it would not be possible to achieve peace. "Instead the violence of white aggression will continue to lead inevitably to its violent rejection." The council added that the steps taken by the Government so far to dismantle racial discrimination had been "superficial."

It stated: "The Government still seems intent on proceed-

ing with such drastic apartheid measures as the plan to move 200,000 (African) people to yet another vast 'dumping ground' at Commaties Drift." The council condemned what it termed the Government's efforts to "terrorize many of its internal critics and opponents into silence."



## OVERSEAS



Desmonauts sum up: General Alexei Leonov (left), the Soyuz commander, promoted from Colonel on Wednesday, and Mr Valeri Kubyasov (centre), his engineer, thanked their American colleagues from Apollo "for your big job" at a press conference in Moscow yesterday. With them was Lieutenant-General Vladimir Shalov, head of cos-

monaut training. General Leonov said he had worried before the flight about language difficulties between the two crews, but during the mission "we understood each other very well. We did not have any language problems." Mr Kubyasov, praised by General Leonov for his "calmness, self-control and high erudition", said the two crews

had encountered certain difficulties during the flight. A "hard dock" during the second link-up had been caused by some swaying from Apollo, but there was no damage. Soviet and American officials at the press conference reported that the two countries were now discussing the possibilities of future joint cooperation in space.

## How India's once helpful officials are enforcing strict censorship

From Peter Hazeburtt  
Karachi, July 24

The junior Indian official toyed with a blue pencil as his eyes scanned the typewritten sheets on top of his desk. Suddenly he frowned, the pencil hovered over the paper and then he began scoring out one line after another each other as we waited to submit our reports to the censor. It was going to be another exasperating night.

The anxious American reporter watching his work being deleted began to protest. "Why have you crossed out the sentence dealing with the suspension of fundamental rights? That's part of an official ordinance."

The censor looked up and said: "Because fundamental rights have not been suspended for the average person. It applies only to people who have been detained. They have no right to appeal to courts."

But that means that fundamental rights have been suspended, the frustrated correspondent pleaded. "You are wrong," the official replied as he continued to strike out more phrases.

"But why have you deleted the report suggesting that demonstrations against Mr. Gandhi have been suspended?" the correspondent asked, his voice rising to a higher pitch.

"Because nobody would want to plan a demonstration against the Prime Minister in the first place. And by the way, you cannot pass this message informing your editor that this report has been censored," the official said.

The frustrated correspondent next wanted to know why the phrase: "Mrs Gandhi was found guilty of corrupt practices during the 1971 elections," was being deleted when it was the verdict of the court.

"Well, all right, I will pass that if you change corrupt practices to read minor irregularities," the censor said.

"No," said our colleague adamantly. "Just leave a blank space."

"But then the sentence will make no sense and the readers will know this has been censored. You either change it or the entire report will be held back," the censor said.

Snatching up his report the American stood off in a rage. His experience here as a typical example of how once helpful press officers in India's Information Bureau are implementing one of the most rigorous forms of censorship.

In essence, the objectives of censorship, as laid down in a confidential document entitled *A Guideline to Censor Officers*, do not appear to warrant such harsh restrictions on the freedom of the press.

According to the document, which was passed on to me by a senior censor, the objectives of imposing censorship under the emergency are to ensure that the news media do not in any way contribute to any scare about the general situation or public interest; the central government determining what is in the public interest; by reporting "any action or statement or event that is likely to cause disaffection between the Government and the people."

The document makes it abundantly clear that almost any event or statement can be interpreted within the scope of these broad objectives. It is also obvious that censorship has been introduced to silent opposition, muzzle critical newspapers and protect the government from the scrutiny of public.

The guideline goes on to inform censor officers who have been drafted from India's Press Information Bureau that "the emergency has a very definite connotation." It explains:

"All accepted concepts of news reporting, editorial contribution towards lengthening the period of emergency. Strict scrutiny will have to be enforced on everything written, the headlines, cartoons, leader page articles, letters and advertisements."

"Nothing will be allowed in newspapers which is likely to create the impression that the crisis is in some way or other expressing or indicating his disapproval of the Government's measures. Such practices are generally to leave editorial columns either blank or fill it with quotations from either classics or well-known leaders. Censors will not permit any such journalistic gimmick."

In recent weeks, two noted Indian journalists have been hauled up for contravening this section of the guideline after they published articles which have indirectly mocked the state. Mr Kuldip Nayyar, was given warning that all material whether it relates to India or not must be submitted to the censors before it is published in his column "between the lines."

In another article which passed the censors, Mr Bal Subramanian, columnist on the *Eastern Economist*, examined "Livestock problems of India" beginning his column with the words: "There are 580 million sheep in India."

The guideline goes on to declare that publishers and censors "must be specially vigilant" to ensure that nothing published should attempt to: "Denigrate the office of the Prime Minister; endanger the law and order situation; contain false allegations against leaders; incite the armed forces or the police; subvert the functioning of democratic institutions; compel members of Parliament to resign; describe demonstrations."

These guidelines are so definite and yet so broad that censors—junior officials who are terrified of losing the security of a government job—are interpreting the rules to the narrowest degree.

## CIA planned two coups to halt Allende rise to power

From Nicholas M. Horrocks  
Washington, July 24

Former President Nixon authorized the Central Intelligence Agency to make all-out effort in September, 1970, to prevent Dr Salvador Allende, the Marxist, from becoming President of Chile, according to authoritative Government sources.

As a result of this assignment, the sources said, the CIA became involved in the planning of two military coups, both of which included a proposal to kidnap General Rene Schneider, Chief of Staff of the Chilean Army. The kidnapping would have given the Chilean military a justification for declaring martial law and assuming the powers of government.

The sources said that the CIA tried later to stop one of the plans, but it went forward and General Schneider was killed in the kidnapping attempt. In the other plot, later abandoned, the agency supplied insurgents with three machine guns and with tear gas grenades.

Dr Kissinger, then President Nixon's national security adviser, was briefed about the first plot and has told President Ford about it, Administration sources said, but he has said he did not know that the CIA was negotiating with yet another group.

Intelligence sources said, however, that agency officials felt Mr Nixon's strongly worded orders to block Dr Allende constituted a blanket authorization for their activities.

Reports in *The New York Times* last autumn indicated that the CIA was involved in efforts to stop Dr Allende from assuming the presidency, but in these accounts and in subsequent congressional hearings the efforts appeared to be limited to the secret financing of opposition parties and trade unions. The latest disclosures are the first confirmation that President Nixon and the CIA contemplated military coups or the violent overthrow of the Chilean Government.

This new information, with copies of congressional testimony in 1973 by Mr Richard Helms, then director of the CIA, have been forwarded to the Department of Justice for study on whether perjury may have been committed by Helms, sources confirmed. Mr Helms' evidence on Chile before a Senate committee contained contradictions regarding the depth and extent of CIA activities against Dr Allende.

Despite the CIA's efforts, Dr Allende assumed office in November, 1970. He died in the military coup that overthrew his Government in September, 1973.

—New York Times News Service.

## Doctors' report intensifies doubts over Señora Perón

Buenos Aires, July 24.—The Argentine newspaper today that doctors have advised President Isabel Peron to rest and limit her activities. The announcement has set off renewed speculation that the President will seek a leave of absence from her post.

A medical bulletin released by the Government's Press Secretary said the President, who is 44 and was ill with influenza last week, "has not recovered during the period of convalescence prescribed for reasons of work."

Reports were widespread last week that Señora Peron, locked in a confrontation with workers, would ask for a 60-day leave because of exhaustion. Those reports were officially denied.

In another development, Senator Lastiri resigned yesterday as president of the lower house of Parliament.

Senator Lastiri, whose position had put him second in line to succeed President Peron if she were to die or leave office, was also reported to be ready to resign his parliamentary seat.

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## Taiwan reports on mainland speeches undermine Peking's image abroad

From David Bonavia  
Peking, July 24

Sorting the grain from the chaff in overseas reports about China's internal politics is one of the toughest problems confronting those who take an interest in the country.

The secretiveness of the Chinese authorities about many matters of high policy and personalities is such that a good deal of news is certain to emanate from sources outside China. An example is the recent disclosure in Bangkok by Mr Kulit Pramoi, the Thai Prime Minister, of details of his conversation last month with Chairman Mao Tse-tung, which he had refused to reveal at his press conference in Peking, following the usual practice of visiting foreign statesmen.

The information department of the Chinese Foreign Ministry will rarely confirm or deny the authenticity of such reports.

The most difficult problems of analysis occur when the anti-communist regime in Taiwan publishes documents or makes statements ascribed to senior mainland officials. Such reports are suspect if only because of their origin, but

Taiwan's intelligence services have not always been wholly misleading about conditions on the mainland. So any such report is read with interest as well as scepticism.

The latest object of puzzlement among observers in Peking is the Taiwan report of speech attributed to Chiang Ching, Chairman Mao's wife, which was mainly devoted to foreign affairs.

Chiang Ching is alleged to have said that she was "merely conveying what she had learnt from the Chairman". In the reported disclosures about Chairman Mao's favourable attitude towards Mr Nixon, the former President, the address attributed to her agreed with what Mr Kukri said in Bangkok.

On the other hand it must be recognized that the remarks ascribed to Chiang Ching accord extraordinarily well with the image of Peking which the Taiwan authorities would like to put abroad, with the intention of undermining confidence in it.

For instance, the Chairman's wife is alleged to have argued that China's policy of supporting the independence of Third

## Law Report July 24 1975

## Crossman Diaries: 'Essence of the complaint'

Attorney General v Jonathan Cape Ltd and Others  
Attorney General v Times Newspapers Ltd  
Before Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice

At the resumption of the Crossman Diaries hearing, Mr James Comyn, QC, for *The Sunday Times*, introduced his defence evidence by dividing it into two compartments: the affidavits of his witnesses and books from which he hoped to show that the parameters or conventions which Sir John Hunt, Secretary of the Cabinet, was probably the best observer, did not exist.

He read an affidavit by Mr John Mackintosh, MP and political writer, who stated that until the first World War there was no Cabinet secretariat. It was only in the twentieth century that the practice of some senior ministers writing their memoirs arose, and then the convention was established that they could consult any Cabinet papers to refresh their memories. The danger of memoir writing was that those persons enjoyed privileged access to documents, and sometimes had strong motives in slanting their own contributions to Cabinet discussions.

He considered that the value of Mr Crossman's book lay not in specific facts but on the impression created by the mass of detail. It was probably the best account of the ministerial civil servant relationship that would appear for a generation. He painted a picture of the machine. He accepted that a powerful self-confident editor could get his way. The book was of inestimable value to students of British politics and government.

Mr Evans, QC, for the Attorney General, said that the book was not a diary but a collection of entries from the Diaries some ago. Crossman had never concealed his intention to publish. He was aware of Mr Crossman's hope that he could do something to light up the secret places of British politics.

When he read the first volume in August, 1974, he was impressed by his achievement. What he had to do was to give a picture of the day-to-day working of government in Britain. It was based on experience of 10 years ago, and was subjective in part, yet it was a vivid and accurate picture of the way they were governed and of the importance of the policy decisions in the way policy was made. Since Labour Government's defeat in 1970 a number of memoirs had been published by those intimately involved in the events of 1964-70, including those of Lord George-Brown, Lady Falkender, Lord Wigg, Lord Gordon-Walker and, particularly, Mr Wilson's own record. The publications, and especially the Prime Minister's personal recollections had aroused great interest and some controversy due to the authors and others had sought to put on the events of 1964-70.

It was unsatisfactory that a public figure should put his own interpretation on particular events, and perhaps his own role in them as described in a colleague's published work. It was not to do so, but because the information which perhaps he had necessarily to give fell within the parameters which Sir John Hunt had set.

Lord Houghton's personal opinion was that there was a need for much more openness about the working of the Government. In his view there should be full disclosure of Cabinet minutes, documents and other public records after 10 years.

Mr Evans considered the article very much in the public interest for two reasons. (1) It enabled ministers to exercise their right to defend the stewardship for which they were publicly accountable. (2) It enabled the electorate to form a true picture of history and its lessons for us today.

He was convinced that not only the public at large but also the Government itself benefited from the publication of government actions and decisions. Recent years had seen a vast growth in the role of the state and the power of the bureaucracy. He regarded it as harmful and wrong that in the same period the tendency had been for secrecy in government to increase. He could see no reason why the public should not have available to them in detail the process by which, for example, important planning decisions were made, and the up to and including the Cabinet.

It might well be argued that a country such as Britain, with an educated public, was ungovernable without the free flow of information. It was increasingly necessary to consent and that the increased tendency to secrecy was itself a corollary of the free flow of information. Secrecy should be radically examined because in a system where disclosure was more nearly the norm errors were less likely to occur.

Mr Evans did not claim any special privileges for the press in breaking those barriers to secrecy which had been erected. He regarded the ordinary citizen but inevitably the press was the vehicle of disclosure and accepted that as a duty. That required that the press should be free to report what it published, but the duty could not properly be fulfilled if the press was subject to restraint at the instance of any other official. He did not see why the secretary had the necessary authority or independence to impose such decisions.

Mr William Rees-Mogg, editor of *The Times*, said in an affidavit that he had never heard until the present case that the discretion which ministers exercised of deciding what they should or should not publish was limited by any law except the Official Secrets Act, 1911. He had never heard a minister or Prime Minister suggest that that discretion belonged not to him but to the Secretary of the Cabinet. He had never heard of the practice of submitting memoirs for discussion.

Only on one occasion had he had dealings with the Cabinet Secretary over a question of confidentiality. He had planned in 1967 to publish a book on the subject of a "civilization of Sir Anthony Nutting's memoirs. Objection was taken on the ground that they infringed official secrecy. He had received a letter from the Cabinet Secretary, Sir John Hunt, to that effect. In fact Sir Anthony Nutting's memoirs about collusion with foreign powers in the Suez invasion about which untrue statements had at the time been made by ministers in the House of Commons. He wrote to the then secretary and told him that he intended to proceed with publication and he heard no more. It was his belief that the

public interest could never require that confidentiality should prevent the correction of erroneous or deliberately mendacious accounts of public matters.

Lord Houghton, a member of the Royal Commission on the Constitution, 1970 to 1974, and a member of the Royal Commission on Standards of Conduct in Public Life, said that, as a member of Mr Crossman, he could draw lessons from our experience.

Mr Grimond accepted the need for confidentiality in certain aspects of government. But the secrecy which surrounded much of the administration of government business was excessive and it could not be in the public interest that decisions which affected the degree of publication of Cabinet and Government affairs should be subject to restraint by a public servant who was neither elected nor accountable to Parliament. He was not aware of any authority which vested in the Secretary of the Cabinet the sole responsibility for decisions as to the confidentiality or otherwise of memoirs or other writings of Cabinet ministers.

Sir Anthony Nutting said that in 1967 he wrote a book, *No End of Lesson*, which gave an account of the Suez crisis of 1956 when he was Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. He had kept silent for 10 years about the events because he wished to tell the whole story or nothing at all. As any of the chief protagonists of the Suez war still held high public office it would have been a grave disservice to the nation to have told the whole story.

Although other nations and statesmen might have suspected that the Israeli attack on Egypt had been planned in collusion with Britain and France, to have publicly confirmed such suspicions would have made it impossible for other nations to deal with the British ministers on a basis of confidence and trust. By 1967, however, the relevant ministers were out of office and he had decided to tell the story in full.

He had submitted a proof to Sir Burke Trend, who said in effect that he had to have the book published. He had told Sir Burke that he would express certain references to views expressed by named individuals in the Cabinet and references to opinions of Foreign Office officials but those were the only concessions he made. He considered that he had the right and duty to publish the book. He truly believed there could be no convention which allowed a Government to deceive Parliament and people to lead the nation into war yet which denied the right of one who dissociated himself from that deception by resigning his office to reveal the truth.

The Lord Chief Justice: Surely that went quite a long way within the parameters.

Mr Comyn: He is asserting his right to put the record straight and that as a question of personal judgment he was prepared to go some way to help Sir Burke. He only acknowledged the parameters to that extent.

The Attorney General, Mr Sam Silkin, QC, read a letter from Lord Houghton in which he expressed strong belief in the strict application of the rule that Cabinet papers and secrets should not be available for 30 years; he would have preferred a 50-year rule.

He knew certain ministers who had in their possession official Cabinet papers which enabled them to maintain their candour and believed that the practice continued. It was totally wrong and was not in the interests of the state. It was an immoral and unjustifiable practice.

In an affidavit Lord Diamond said that from his experience as a former member of the Government he believed that the need for confidentiality about taking decisions was important in the field of economic affairs as well as foreign affairs and defence. He believed that not only the Government but the Civil Service was made of such stuff that he would express his views if he feared they would be given publicity. The need for confidentiality for a minister applied equally to advice given by civil servants.

Mr Richard Denis Kelly, a barrister and literary assistant to Sir Winston Churchill from 1947 to 1957, stated in an affidavit that Sir Winston always submitted drafts of his memoirs to the Secretary of the Cabinet. He had always accepted their recommendations and had been careful not to describe details of the proceedings in Cabinet, but he had written a book which he regarded as entirely confidential. He only referred to the advice he received of public servants in the most general terms.

Sir John Hunt, cross-examined by Mr Brian Neill, QC, for the literary executors, was asked whether he agreed that the effect of the evidence of his colleagues was that the Secretary of the Cabinet, Sir Burke Trend to Lord Frank's Committee in 1971 on official secrecy, was that the role of secretary of memoirs was purely consultative.

Mr Neill: So if the role is consultative only the minister puts his memoirs before the secretary and he would then say "Yes that is all right" or "No, I would like you to make that out." Would that be a fair summary of your predecessor's evidence?—Yes.

He can neither act as censor, in the sense that he cannot enforce cutting it out, nor can he in fact give approval. All he can say is "So far as I am concerned it is objectionable or unobjectionable."—Yes.

Mr Neill: It is not a matter of either authorizing or forbidding publication.

The Lord Chief Justice: But if he says "So far as I am concerned it is all right" is there any real barrier to the publication of a different view—constitutionally it would be highly unlikely—I would have thought it highly unlikely.

The Attorney, re-examining Sir John, asked: "You said in reply to Mr Comyn yesterday that if a minister wished to publish his memoirs he was not satisfied with the advice you gave him it would be open to him to appeal to the Prime Minister. Can you say whether you have come across such cases in your own experience?"

Sir John: Not in my own experience.

Do you know whether that has happened?—I think in the past there have been cases when either the author saw the Prime Minister of the day or the Prime Minister raised a point with the author.

I appreciate it was before your time and outside your experience but as it happened frequently or is a rarity?—It is rare.

The Attorney asked: "You were asked at a later stage that the less in which you said 'I have a right of veto' I have consistently said this, and your attention was drawn to the 'action' which would be taken by you if necessary, and your reply was 'I would pass the matter to the hands of there is a considerable breach'. In that context to whom were you referring?"

Sir John: To the Treasury Solicitor.

And through him?—To yourself, the Attorney General.

That is something quite distinct from what we have been talking about, when the Prime Minister may come in?—Yes.

The Attorney referred to Sir John's answer yesterday that after the First World War, which produced a general amnesty, the secretary was given the task of

considering the text of memoirs and it was decided that ministers should no longer be allowed to take documents away with them and to start from the previous practice.

The Attorney: Have you any doubt that what happened during the immediate post 1914 war period was in fact a departure from what had been understood as the convention in relation to publishing memoirs?

Sir John: I think it was a departure in the sense of a deliberate copying and stitching up of the records. Following both world wars, because of censorship and everything else very little information was being made public, the Governments of the day exercised a slightly more tolerant attitude in relation to memoirs about the two wars.

You use the expression "government of the day". In what sense is this correct?—In the sense that the conventions and judgement I apply to memoirs in my present capacity flow from the statement made after the Second World War by the Lord President.

So far as you are aware, since the tightening up has there been any significant change in either the procedure or the approach?—No.

There was some evidence this morning suggesting that the approach to the Crossman Diaries represents a significant change from what happened at any rate in your predecessor's time and in the context of the ministerial memoirs. What do you say about that?—I would not agree.

Did you put the Crossman Diaries in a different class from other memoirs that former ministers had written?—In a different class, in that Mr Crossman's memoirs, in his introduction that he was intending a different approach. He was intending to throw light on secret places and to give a detailed revelation of views within Cabinet and the attribution of those views to individuals. This is the principal feature of the departure.

The Attorney General: I think the present Prime Minister made a statement in the House on the way this writing procedure is carried out—in reply to a written question?—Yes.

Asked whether the statement represented what he understood to be the position, he said: "It was to explain the circumstances and that a text had been submitted to the Secretary of the Cabinet in relation to ministerial memoirs. What do you say about that?—I would not agree."

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## Queen's Bench Division

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PARLIAMENT, July 24, 1975

# MPs from both sides attack Mr Peart over EEC farm deal

House of Commons

MR PEART, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Workington, Lab.), in a statement on this week's meeting of the EEC Council of Agricultural Ministers, said the 3 per cent change from August in the Green, Pounds per tonne, was a significant price increase under the common agricultural policy were converted into sterling—meant that common support prices for British farmers would rise automatically by about 5 per cent in sterling terms.

The changes would increase returns to British agriculture by over £100m in a full year. This was a valuable step towards the longer term objectives set out in the Government's White Paper *Food from the Green Revolution*.

Consequently, the said producer prices of particular commodities are:

**MILK**—The effective level of the guarantee will be increased by about 2.5 per cent from September 1. The new annual average guaranteed price for 1975-76 will be 35.25p per gallon. This increase will be in force from the beginning of the period to next March. This mid-year adjustment means that the guaranteed price for milk will be 5 p per gallon more than the set at last year's annual review.

**BEEF**—I was concerned to give beef farmers a better prospect under the winter but to avoid undue support having in the peak period of autumn marketings. It is part of the arrangement that, although the change in the representative rate will take effect from September 1, the effective buying-in price will not be increased this year. I shall be announcing a scale of producer target prices rising from 22.5p per lb in October to 22.75p in February.

The buying-in price will rise by at least 12 p per lb over the winter and the seasonal scale of target prices will continue to increase until May. The seasonal differential should provide a strong inducement for fatteners to hold stock over the winter. It should strengthen prices at the autumn sales of calves and lambs.

**WHEAT**—**BARLEY**—The September intervention price for the 1975 crop will be increased to about £54.50 and £47.60 per ton respectively. Nevertheless, the United Kingdom's wheat and barley will continue to 1975-76.

**SUGAR BEET**—The guaranteed minimum for the 1975 crop will be £11.50 per ton. When transport and pulp payments are taken into account, growers should receive something of the order of £16.75.

**POLULEY AND RIGWEAT PRODUCE**—The adjustment will be the effect of reducing the subsidies payable on imports and of strengthening the competitive position of our own producers.

Many food prices in the shops will not be affected at all by this change and the total effect on consumers will be small. The adjustment is fully reflected in food prices, they may increase on average by about 1 per cent.

The financing of the increase in the guaranteed price of wheat, together with other costs, will require a further increase of 1p in the maximum retail price of milk in the year, in order to keep within the provision available for the food subsidy programme.

Nine of the less, because of the paramount importance of the Government's attack on inflation, has not been an easy decision for the Government to take now. We have taken it because an increase in the price of wheat and barley is needed in the interests of our future food supply.

We remain ready to consider further adjustment should these be necessary to ensure our agricultural industry of a fair return.

**MR JOLING**, Opposition spokesman on agriculture (Westminster, C), said the statement was disturbing both in the interests of the consumer and producer. It would not stop the decline in production. The 3 per cent devaluation in the price of wheat was insufficient to halt the decline.

The relatively smaller extra cost in food which would result from a further devaluation of the pound would be considerably less than

# Mr Foot expects unemployment to rise further but not to 1.5m

MR FOOT, Secretary of State for Employment (Ebbw Vale, Lab.), in a statement about the unemployment figures published today, said: "The figures show that the total number of unemployed in Britain on July 14 was 1,036,000. This includes 92,000 students who will leave the unemployment register in the autumn and also 35,000 school leavers whose numbers we must expect to increase over the next month or two."

Seasonally adjusted the total is 939,000. This represents an increase of 74,000 since June, which compares with an expected rise of 40,000 over the three preceding months.

"The House will share my deep concern at these figures, and I have no wish to minimize their gravity. We must face the fact that the level of unemployment is likely to continue to rise in the months ahead until the counter-inflation policy and other Government policies have taken effect."

One fundamental requirement before we can secure a substantial improvement is to bring down the domestic rate of inflation. At the moment the Government will take such measures as are open to us in our difficult economic situation to bring this down.

"We have already allocated £50m to the Manpower Services Commission to strengthen training programmes, improve the employment service and provide additional incentives for job mobility. These measures include provision to assist the training of an additional 100,000 people in the next 12 months and to assist to nearly 100,000 in 1976."

"A further package of measures in the form of a new Manpower Services Commission is being put into effect at once. This will make it possible to train 100,000 young people in 1976 and to provide a further 100,000 in 1977 and will provide for a strengthening of the Careers Service. The cost will be £10m spread over this and the next financial year."

We shall introduce our temporary employment subsidy scheme as soon as possible and I shall be announcing the details and starting date very shortly.

"I am also considering further temporary measures which might be possible. To encourage the employment of young people in industry."

These measures can help, but of course, I cannot pretend for a moment that the number of jobs maintained and provided by these means will alleviate substantially the tragic total published today.

If we are to see those figures effectively reduced, we must secure the expansion of our economy as a whole and the fresh investment and confidence required for that purpose. The Government's anti-inflation policies are an essential part of that purpose."

MR. PRIOR, Opposition spokesman on employment (Lewisham, C)—The whole House will be shocked and deeply disturbed, particularly by the trend in the figures which Mr Foot has announced.

There will be no hysterical reaction from the Conservatives as there was on the last occasion when the figures reached a new high of a cycle—just under 1.1m.

"We are now at the beginning of the period that has to be paid for the electoral bribes and inaction and the total failure of the Government to deal with inflation."

Mr Foot's announcement came two months after the debate when we drew attention to it. It was far too little for what was required, and it was far too late.

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"We are now at the beginning of the period that has to be paid for the electoral bribes and inaction and the total failure of the Government to deal with inflation."

If he asked (he continued) any of his constituents whether they would prefer to have their children in the Government's unemployment register than having an extra penny on the price of bread, they would give him the answer.

Mr Foot has very special responsibility for employment not least because of the remarks he made about inflation in the House over the past few months. We have had to endure the jobs and wages of labourers about our being 'in the unemployment register'.

We do not only reject that but we should stop having his kind of science around the House and the country and resign.

MR FOOT—I do not believe the figure is overstated at all in the House and in any quarter. What the country is concerned about is the fact that the figures are so high and so close to getting those magic totals down.

If we were to go back the continued and examine the reasons for the unemployment we would find that the number of jobs at this country but other countries as well. The real and major cause of Britain's unemployment is the fact that the Government's policy of 'A Labour Government'—and of the Labour figures of unemployment we face, is the general recession which has hit so many countries.

The seasonally adjusted unemployment figure—though agreed it was tragically high—represented 16 per cent in France but was 5 per cent; Germany 2.8 per cent; Italy 5.4 per cent; and in the United States 8.6 per cent.

When we look at these figures it was an absurdity for anyone to state that the major cause of those figures rested with the Labour Government which had the whole world and Britain must do its best to save itself from it.

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South, Lab.) said the 'big way' of bringing down the figures lay in the fact that the Government's anti-inflation policy, if it was of either side of the House, would mean that policy they thereby announced the prospects of the unemployed.

MR FOOT said the first necessity was to carry through that policy but that was not the only way of tackling the problem. While the Government was to be considered to try to tackle the unemployment problem.

MR MADEL (South Bedfordshire, C) asked if it was the Government's policy to subsidize the employment of young people in industry. Some firms had plans in the development areas and in the south-east.

MR FOOT said the original idea was to apply it to development areas but there was a strong case for extending it, which was being considered. There would be a statement on the subject next week.

MR ANDERSON (Penzance, Lab.)—While accepting that the main causes of the rise in unemployment are international and due to the cyclical depression which occurs in the capitalist system from time to time—and the Conservatives do not like to hear about it because of their adherence to that system—would Mr Foot accept that in supporting the Government's measures it is now necessary to consider the need to take action to deal with the unemployment problem?

MR FOOT—One of the essential requirements for overcoming unemployment is that we should have

in response to protests at the original proposal that all stages of the Bill should be taken at today's sitting, Mr. FOOT, Lord President of the Council (Newcastle, Lab.), said: "I accept the stage began that the report stage and third reading of the Bill would be taken next Tuesday."

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SPORT

Cricket

Davison as dangerous as Kanhai

By Peter Marson

CONVENTRY: Warwickshire, with eight second innings wickets in hand, lead Leicestershire by 238 runs.

Yesterday started the most fantastic of matches, with some of the best batting in the world. The rain, which descended in the first hour, did not stop the batsmen from showing their strength to keep batsmen and bowlers on the move once the rain had stopped.

Warwickshire, beginning their second innings at 3.20 with a lead of 118, threatened their position by making 120 runs for the loss of Jameson and Kallacharan before the close. Yet, with such little weather, would he have been able to make prophecies about today's action, beyond saying that it seems certain to be eventful.

Leicestershire began the day at 35 for three, standing 299 runs behind. The primary task facing Davison, Illingworth and Gifford was to make 165 runs to avoid the follow-on. Illingworth was soon caught behind off Perryman in the morning's rain, but Davison was to make 165 runs to avoid the follow-on. Illingworth was soon caught behind off Perryman in the morning's rain, but Davison was to make 165 runs to avoid the follow-on.

When Davison chooses to go after the bowlers he can be as dangerous as Kanhai. He is not sure that Davison was in much the same mood as Kanhai had been when he came to the crease with Warwickshire. Bounding in a similar predicament.

Leicestershire's fourth wicket fell at 42 and they looked vulnerable. However, it soon became clear that Davison was in much the same mood as Kanhai had been when he came to the crease with Warwickshire. Bounding in a similar predicament.

Warwickshire's first innings: 154 for 7 (H. B. Kanhai 178 not out).

Second Innings:

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Pendulum is balanced as wickets tumble like clockwork

By John Woodcock

Cricket Correspondent

THE OVAL: Surrey, with three second innings wickets in hand, are 313 runs ahead of Essex.

Both sides have a chance of winning this match today. Surrey, who played well in the first innings, were still good enough for Essex to score heavily; but anything over 300 is a lot of runs in a fourth innings, even on a featherbed.

Yesterday's match was a spectacle of batting, or even a long one, but that did not account for the way the wickets went down. Never more than an hour passed without a batsman getting out.

Surrey, like Essex, found ways of doing it. For them, only Edrich, Younis and Iqbal were the batsmen. When play ended last night the pitch was still good enough for Essex to score heavily; but anything over 300 is a lot of runs in a fourth innings, even on a featherbed.

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Hassan's odd innings ends in hands of Love

By Gerry Harrison

Nottinghamshire, with seven first innings wickets in hand, are 132 runs behind Yorkshire.

It was a day on which sun and wind took the rain in a severe round contest and that on a technical knockout. Cricket filled in the gaps.

An unbroken spell of 135 minutes of play at the end of the day in sunshine might have been enough to attract the faithful of Sheffield to Abbeville Park again today. It is unlikely to be sufficient to produce a result when the final ball has been bowled.

Nottinghamshire have avoided the follow-on. It was a stunner's delight, a batsman's nightmare. Five minutes late and lasted a quarter of an hour before rain swept in from the pavilion end and the pattern of the day was set.

Before lunch there were four sessions, the shortest seven minutes, the longest 25 minutes. They comprised 82 minutes of cricket out of a possible 135. In this period the ground staff cut the time taken from the pitch and the rain came down in a steady drizzle.

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A motley crew reach the last eight

By Peter Ryde

Golf Correspondent

The weather and the kings depart, and the English golf championship at Royal Lytham is left with what might be called without disrespect a motley crew for the selectors to ponder over when they make their decisions this evening. The last eight contain no seeds and no interrelations of any description above youth level.

The oldest is Reg Glading, who is about 50, and who traveled the longest road yesterday defeating D. C. Allen at the 21st, after a lucky escape at the 20th. The youngest is left-hander, who is about 17, and who traveled the longest road yesterday defeating D. C. Allen at the 21st, after a lucky escape at the 20th.

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Golf

Murray in striking form at Montrose

By Lewie Muir

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Worried about his form for much of the year, Murray, a 30-year-old, had sought out his home for much of the year. Murray, a 30-year-old, had sought out his home for much of the year. Murray, a 30-year-old, had sought out his home for much of the year.

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Card of course

Hole Yds Par Hole Yds Par

1	206	3	10	354	4
2	430	4	12	169	3
3	454	4	12	169	3
4	393	4	13	338	4
5	185	3	11	445	4
6	488	5	15	468	4
7	551	5	16	354	4
8	304	4	17	413	4
9	192	3	18	386	4

Out 3,256 36 In 3,416 36

Heaten Lyle in the past ten days in a regional match. Mitchell was three up at the turn, ran into trouble when he turned into wind, but regained the lead at the 15th where Lyle pitched weakly and took three putts for a six. Mitchell finished off with a four at the 17th, pitching almost dead from well up the green.

He meets today Eccleston from Ormskirk, who has played at county level.

Foster's victory over the remaining Walker Cup player, Eyles, raised the prospect of his reaching the last eight as he had done when the championship was last held here in 1956. Recovering from three down after eight he was all square by the 14th, where Eyles holed from 25ft to save himself. The best part of a finish in which Foster took full advantage of 3, 5, 6 by his opponent was Foster's second with two to the heart of the 17th, where he squared again after losing the 15th.

Yesterday's results

Fourth round

G. H. Edwards (Bromborough) beat D. Short (1 hole).  
C. Allen (Widnes) beat G. H. Edwards (Bromborough) 2 and 1.  
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Fifth round

Murray beat Fraser 4 and 3.  
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Fourth round

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Somerset face stiff task

Effective bowling by Gifford and Imran Khan, followed by a brilliant 102 not out by Parker, put

Worcestershire in a powerful position at Weston-Super-Mare yesterday. Somerset, with eight wickets in hand, needed another 237 runs to win today.

After overnight rain Taylor (56) and Richards (132) fought well in a spirited, drying pitch. But Imran Khan, who had been in danger of having 150 minutes, was still there at the declaration, which set Somerset a target of 322 in six hours and a half. Imran Khan, who had been in danger of having 150 minutes, was still there at the declaration, which set Somerset a target of 322 in six hours and a half.

Derbyshire finished in a strong position against Glamorgan where two wickets in hand they lead the home county by 259 runs. With a first innings lead of 60, Derbyshire finished in a strong position against Glamorgan where two wickets in hand they lead

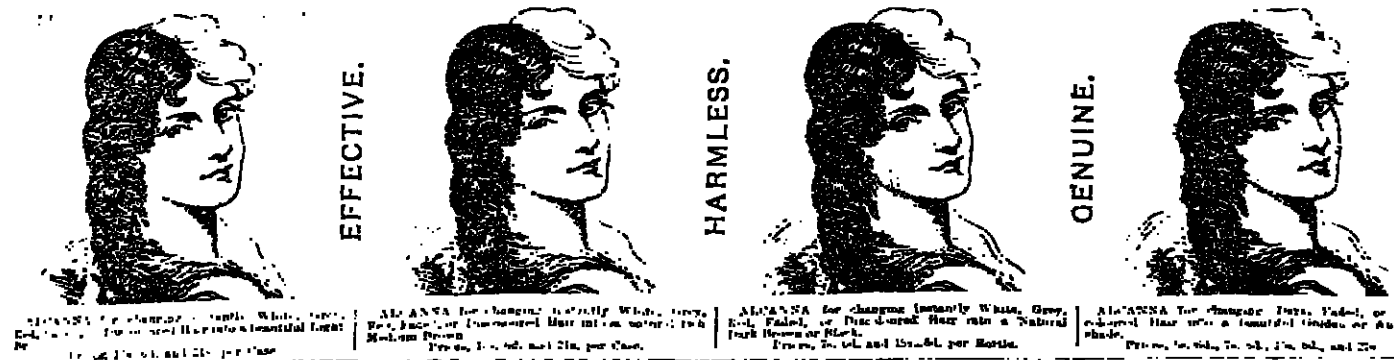


asphy. at Fickson. \$1. 11.  
 TOTE DOUBLE: Cynellacule.  
 liquors: £11.00 TREBLE: First  
 end. Hicakes. Bustello: £11.05.



# Are hair dyes a health hazard?

ALCANNA INSTANTANEOUS LIQUID HAIR-DYE. Warranted perfectly PURE and HARMLESS.



For dyes have been used by women from time immemorial to beautify, disguise, enhance and deceive. To many women, grey hair means that they see themselves—and see others as seeing them—on the tattering slope to decrepitude. In the United States hair dyes are big business—a \$200m a year industry. In England, every chemist shop and many chain stores boast alluring packets guaranteed to turn you every shade from blonde to tawny—to produce a new more vivid you! Mr. J. G. Macaulay, managing director of Steiner's, reckons that "every woman will at some time or other have tried some kind of colouring on her hair", and in his 65 salons in the United Kingdom, some 20,000 people a week are having their hair coloured. Today few people will suffer the fate of *Anna of Green Gables* by seeing their hair turn green—but recent publicity has suggested that dyeing your hair may have more risky propensities—a hazard to health.

It is now known that hair dye not only colours the hair but that one per cent is absorbed into the body through the skin into the blood stream. People who dye their hair themselves will absorb dye through their heads and their hands too, unless they wear rubber gloves. In hair salons clients will absorb the dye through their heads but the girls applying permanent dyes use gloves to stop the dyes colouring their hands, according to Mr. Macaulay. He added that girls rinsing off the permanent dyes or applying semi-permanent dyes and water rinses do not use gloves because "gloves make it difficult to manipulate hair and water. Frequency of use is obviously a relevant factor. People who use water rinses weekly, while semi-permanent and permanent dyes are used at about six week intervals unless people want a more frequent colour change.

The active constituent of hair dyes bought over the counter is the chemical p-aminophenyltoluene. This country's recent experimental work with hair dyes on bacteria and mice have shown what Professor David Herndon, of the Department of Cancer Studies, University of Birmingham, termed as "something very uncomfortable". In the United States, Professor Bruce Ames, of the University of California, contributed his findings to the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, in Washington. He was exposing bacteria to a number of different compounds and looking at mutations—changes which occurred in the cell. Among the many compounds tested were hair dyes. He looked at 169 hair dye

formulations and found that 89 per cent were mutagenic beyond dispute. Virtually every dye had some activity except for the very light shades of blonde. The permanent hair dyes which required the addition of hydrogen peroxide immediately before use were more active than others.

This work was paralleled by experimental studies carried out by Professor David Herndon, Dr. Ted Searle, Dr. Stanley Venitt and Dr. Humphrey Gyde, funded by the Cancer Research Campaign, and was recently published in *Nature*. Experiments on bacteria showed that hair dyes were mutagens and they were also found to cause chromosome breakage in cells from human tissue material. Experiments were also carried out on mice by painting them with hair dye at regular intervals leaving an undyed group of mice as a control group. With one strain of mice some of the painted group developed malignant lymphomas (cancers) early on—although some mice later developed lymphomas in the control group too. With another strain of mice some of the painted group developed lymphomas but none of the control group did so.

What are the scientific implications of these experiments? "We have no definite proof that these dyes cause cancer in human beings," says Dr. Venitt, "but we are showing that many of the characteristics in permanent and semi-permanent hair colourings have biological effects which are characteristic of known chemical carcinogens" (agents causing cancers). Dr. Herndon says: "There is a close link between mutagens and carcinogens. Most carcinogens have mutagenic activity but if a compound is mutagenic it does not necessarily mean it is a carcinogen. Further research should be done to determine whether or not these compounds should be used and consideration should be given to legislation controlling the constituents of cosmetics."

Some imported hair preparations used by the hairdressing trade contain a substance, *p-aminophenyltoluene*, the bottle or tube states: "This contains tolylene-diamine". Japanese work on this chemical has proved it to have a carcinogenic effect on rats. When the substance was fed to rats as 0.1 per cent of their diet research workers found a 100 per cent tumour incidence in the rats after 30 weeks.

It is obvious that the consumer needs protection against known carcinogens and it is equally desirable that more study and research needs to be done on chemical dyeing compounds used in hair dyes, and in other cosmetics and other products such as clothing. The managing directors of two large hairdressing chains were in

agreement. "If we have an ingredient causing cancer we would immediately stop using it. We aim at making women beautiful without making them ill," the cosmetic manufacturers are responsible, we would all cooperate," said Mr. Macaulay of Steiner's. "We would not use it. We are too big to take the slightest of chances with the health of our clients—and our staff too," said Mr. Tony Standish of Raymond's.

Not all manufacturers appear quite so willing. A delegation of United States cosmetic manufacturers at a meeting in Birmingham earlier this year were concerned, but also defensive. They said that the results to be published in *Nature* were "inconclusive" and that they had ample evidence to state that hair dyes were entirely safe.

If the consumer is to be adequately protected it is essential that the position is fully evaluated. First, the cosmetic manufacturers should publish their evidence so that it can be scrutinized by the public. Second, consumers and consumer organizations must press manufacturers to reveal the detailed chemical constituents of hair dyes—both those used in the trade and sold over the counter. Third, the Government should bring in legislation to implement a draft EEC directive issued to member states, which deals with hazards which may arise from cosmetics, bans carcinogens and names other compounds which may be safely used only up to a stated percentage.

Finally, there is need for massive testing: on bacteria (quick and cheap) and also on skin tissue and animals. At the same time epidemiological studies should be carried out. A study in Leeds three years ago on bladder cancer found there was an excess among certain occupations including hairdressing. Dr. John Waterhouse, director of the Cancer Registry, Birmingham, is to follow up those cases occurring in the hairdressing trade.

The question about hair dyes raises disturbing questions with wide implications about the possible hazards of other everyday products in general use. Should manufacturers be required to carry out more tests on the products they market—haven't they the responsibility to show that their products are safe? A final safeguard for the consumer was suggested by Mrs. Janet Upwood, secretary of the National Federation of Consumer Groups. In discussing products used in the home she said: "I would like to see us move towards a positive list of permitted ingredients—ingredients which can only be used if they are proven to be safe."

Cynthia Walton

# Life in Mrs Pankhurst's second family

Emmeline Pankhurst was a brave and impetuous woman. Never more so, perhaps, than in her decision, taken in 1915 at the age of 57, to adopt four "war babies"—Kathleen King, Mary Gordon, Joan Pembroke, and Elizabeth Tudor. Kathleen being Irish by paternity, Mary Scottish, the others English.



Mrs. Pankhurst had a very busy war, with two trips to north America and one to Russia as a semi-official envoy, and morale-raising harangues in industrial centres all over Britain. The girls were looked after in a rented house in London's Holland Park by nurse Catherine Pine ("Aunt Kate"), a woman of bulldog appearance and character whose nursing home had been used as a refuge for suffragettes weakened by their prison ordeals. She was fiercely devoted to Mrs. Pankhurst, but a real martinet and very old-fashioned—as indeed was Emmeline ("Mother")—in her notions of how to bring up children.

After the war, the household in 1919, found the tone distinctly quaint. "The children", she recorded, "flitted about like fairies, offered you scones with a curtsy, and kissed their hands to you when they left the room. Having been a tomboy myself, these fairy reveals failed to enchant me". Shortly after this, Mrs. Pankhurst, accompanied by nurse Pine, crossed the Atlantic again to earn high fees as a lecturer on the perils of Bolshevism and the need to foster a spirit of service among the young. Some months later, escorted by a French governess, the four girls joined her in Victoria, British Columbia.

In 1921 the family moved to Toronto, Mrs. Pankhurst's base for her activities as a star speaker on moral and social hygiene employed by the National Council for Combating Venereal Diseases. In 1922 Christabel Pankhurst arrived in Toronto, where she too began a new career—as a Second Adventist preacher and publicist. In summer 1924, exhausted by 30 years of itinerant evangelism in one cause or another, Mrs. Pankhurst took the children to Bermuda for a long holiday, but after eight or nine months of idleness and enforced domesticity became restless and more than usually worried about money.

England now homes were found for Joan and Kathleen and they were sent ahead with nurse Pine. Kathleen was readopted by John Coleridge Taylor, a wealthy couple in Scotland.

For Mother, Auntie Christabel, Mary, and Elizabeth the next stop, weirdly enough, was The English Teashop of Good Hope at Juanes-Pinas. This was financed by Mrs. Mabel Tuke, an old suffragette colleague, who also did most of the scone and toast making. The enterprise flourished rapidly, and there followed a short stay in Paris after which Mrs. Pankhurst, looking terribly frail, returned to London and emerged as prospective Conservative candidate for the strongly Labour constituency of Whitechapel and St. George's Stepney. National solidarity, moral rearmament, and an end to class war were her main themes. She was soon clashing violently with her radical socialist daughter Sylvia, who for more than a decade had preached class war in the East End and for much of that time had lived with an Italian socialist, refusing on principle to marry.

On June 14, 1928, Mrs. Pankhurst, aged 69 and penniless, died, and Mary, who had been staying with Kathleen and the Coleridge Taylors, was taken temporarily by Miss Marion Wallace-Dunlop, a sculptor and ex-militant with a splendid Elizabethan house at Peaslake. The bewildered girl was taken to Mother's spectacular funeral, of which her chief memory is the procession, during which, to stentorian bellows from "General" Flora Drummond ("Women! Rally for the last time!"), suffragette jail-birds marched, medals clinking, from St. John's Church, Smith Square,

—were often out and Elizabeth and I roller-skated for miles along the pavements. Once in a restaurant a woman came to our table, talked furiously, and tried to take us away. Mother told us she was mad and thought we were the Lost Princesses of Russia! Perhaps it was the Kate Greenaway

Miss Bevis's sedate household (in Brighton) was an antithesis, the main events being excursions in a large chauffeur-driven car and, at Christmas, a ceremonial distribution of hampers to the deserving poor. At school Mary was a bit of a problem, fluent in French, precocious in literary and general knowledge, and possessing a large if slightly archaic vocabulary, but quite ignorant of mathematics. Yet in three years she passed the junior and senior Cambridge school certificate examinations, which she comments, "say something for 'travelling children' who were encouraged to read as we did".

She trained as a nurse, and in Uganda, where she worked for 16 years, married Derek Hodgson, a colonial police officer, and gave birth to two boys and a girl. When her husband, who died two years ago, transferred to the Foreign Office security service, Mary went with him to Bucharest, Nairobi, and Mauritius. Until very recently she was a staff nurse at Mount Glastonbury, Plymouth (where she lives in a small bungalow on the edge of the moors) and tried to pass on something of that spirit of service which Mother (and, in her way, Madge) had taught her.

Now she works in the mornings as a home help among the aged and infirm. This leaves her more leisure, some of which she uses to read about the suffragette movement and Mrs. Pankhurst's first family, for instance, she understands why Mother fled to her room "like a sulky girl" and refused to see Auntie Sylvia when that Scarlet Woman dared to call. But, Mrs. Pankhurst and Christabel, during and after the militant suffrage campaign. All material will be acknowledged, copied and returned.

David Mitchell

The author is writing a biography of Christabel Pankhurst. He would be grateful for any letters, papers, photographs, etc., illuminating her life during and after the militant suffrage campaign. All material will be acknowledged, copied and returned.

## Appointments Vacant also on page 21

**ACCOUNTANCY**  
OPENINGS at all levels in the Practice of Accountancy. Qualifications: Graduate of the Institute of Accountants. Salary: £1,000-£1,500 p.a. Applications: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

**SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
ASSISTANT Scientific Publication Editor. Salary: £1,000-£1,500 p.a. Applications: 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

**UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW**  
DEPARTMENT OF TOWN AND REGIONAL PLANNING  
S.S.R.C. RESEARCH STUDENTSHIP  
Applications are invited for a research studentship in the Department of Town and Regional Planning. The studentship is for one year, starting in September 1976. The student should be a graduate of a university in the United Kingdom or a country which is a member of the Commonwealth. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of town and regional planning. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of town and regional planning. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of town and regional planning.

**UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM**  
INFORMATICS FOR SCIENCE  
Applications are invited for a research studentship in the Department of Informatics for Science. The studentship is for one year, starting in September 1976. The student should be a graduate of a university in the United Kingdom or a country which is a member of the Commonwealth. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of informatics for science. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of informatics for science. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of informatics for science.

**UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM**  
TEMPORARY LECTURESHIP IN AFRICAN HISTORY  
Applications are invited for a temporary lectureship in the Department of African History. The lectureship is for one year, starting in September 1976. The applicant should be a graduate of a university in the United Kingdom or a country which is a member of the Commonwealth. The applicant should be able to undertake research in the field of African history. The applicant should be able to undertake research in the field of African history. The applicant should be able to undertake research in the field of African history.

**UNIVERSITY OF READING**  
DEPARTMENT OF ROMAN STUDIES  
Applications are invited for a research studentship in the Department of Roman Studies. The studentship is for one year, starting in September 1976. The student should be a graduate of a university in the United Kingdom or a country which is a member of the Commonwealth. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of Roman studies. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of Roman studies. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of Roman studies.

**UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES - JAMAICA**  
Applications are invited for a research studentship in the Department of the West Indies - Jamaica. The studentship is for one year, starting in September 1976. The student should be a graduate of a university in the United Kingdom or a country which is a member of the Commonwealth. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of the West Indies - Jamaica. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of the West Indies - Jamaica. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of the West Indies - Jamaica.

**UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD**  
CHAIR OF ENGLISH LITERATURE  
Applications are invited for a research studentship in the Department of English Literature. The studentship is for one year, starting in September 1976. The student should be a graduate of a university in the United Kingdom or a country which is a member of the Commonwealth. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of English literature. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of English literature. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of English literature.

**OFFICE MANAGER-ACCOUNTANT**  
Individual needed for immediately opening Sales Branch of U.S. Corporation. Interesting and challenging opportunity for individual with working knowledge and experience in preparing income statements, trial balances, inventory records, cost accounting, payroll and accounts receivable. Will supervise purchasing, order processing, inventory and pricing. Position located in Wokingham. This opportunity offers a good salary and fringe package. Applicants please contact: Mr. James Burston, Wokingham Road, Wokingham, RG40 1JH, for interview appointment. Applicants should have resume ready for review.

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## UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

**UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**  
PERTH  
**UNIVERSITY RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS (POST-DOCTORAL)**  
The University of Western Australia offers post-doctoral research fellowships in a wide range of disciplines. The fellowships are for one year, starting in September 1976. The applicant should be a graduate of a university in the United Kingdom or a country which is a member of the Commonwealth. The applicant should be able to undertake research in the field of the discipline. The applicant should be able to undertake research in the field of the discipline. The applicant should be able to undertake research in the field of the discipline.

**UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX**  
RESEARCH STUDENTSHIP IN EXPERIMENTAL PHYSICS  
An S.R.C. Research Studentship is now available in a wide range of research projects with reference to the areas of low temperature physics (including Superfluids He-3 and He-4) and Solid State Physics. Applications are invited from students with 1st class or upper 2nd class honours degrees in Physics or a related discipline. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of experimental physics. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of experimental physics. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of experimental physics.

**UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS**  
DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY  
Applications are invited for a research studentship in the Department of Botany. The studentship is for one year, starting in September 1976. The student should be a graduate of a university in the United Kingdom or a country which is a member of the Commonwealth. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of botany. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of botany. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of botany.

**UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM**  
RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP  
Applications are invited for a research assistantship in the Department of Informatics for Science. The assistantship is for one year, starting in September 1976. The applicant should be a graduate of a university in the United Kingdom or a country which is a member of the Commonwealth. The applicant should be able to undertake research in the field of informatics for science. The applicant should be able to undertake research in the field of informatics for science. The applicant should be able to undertake research in the field of informatics for science.

**UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM**  
COMPUTER UNIT  
Applications are invited for a research studentship in the Department of Computer Unit. The studentship is for one year, starting in September 1976. The student should be a graduate of a university in the United Kingdom or a country which is a member of the Commonwealth. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of computer unit. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of computer unit. The student should be able to undertake research in the field of computer unit.

**UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM**  
TEMPORARY OR PERMANENT TRAINED BUTLER REQUIRED  
Highest references, good salary and accommodation. Apply to: The Secretary, The University of Durham, Leazes Road, Durham, DH1 1TA.

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Man around 50 for various business executive, flexible working hours, experience and references essential. Apply to: The Secretary, The University of Durham, Leazes Road, Durham, DH1 1TA.

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required for country house in Devon. Must be able to cook and clean. Good salary and accommodation. Apply to: The Secretary, The University of Durham, Leazes Road, Durham, DH1 1TA.

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In delightful North Essex village to professional couple. Large detached house with 10 bedrooms, 10 bathrooms, 10 living rooms, 10 dining rooms, 10 sitting rooms, 10 study rooms, 10 library rooms, 10 office rooms, 10 garage rooms, 10 garden rooms, 10 terrace rooms, 10 driveway rooms, 10 parking rooms, 10 storage rooms, 10 utility rooms, 10 laundry rooms, 10 linen rooms, 10 closet rooms, 10 wardrobe rooms, 10 dressing rooms, 10 bathroom rooms, 10 kitchen rooms, 10 dining room rooms, 10 sitting room rooms, 10 study room rooms, 10 library room rooms, 10 office room rooms, 10 garage room rooms, 10 garden room rooms, 10 terrace room rooms, 10 driveway room rooms, 10 parking room rooms, 10 storage room rooms, 10 utility room rooms, 10 laundry room rooms, 10 linen room rooms, 10 closet room rooms, 10 wardrobe room rooms, 10 dressing room rooms, 10 bathroom room rooms, 10 kitchen room rooms, 10 dining room rooms, 10 sitting room rooms, 10 study room rooms, 10 library room rooms, 10 office room rooms, 10 garage room rooms, 10 garden room rooms, 10 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# Conflict in Sri Lanka, where the Marxist red shirt means power and a job ticket

Just five years ago Sri Lanka elected its present left wing United Front Government for a term of five years. If a general election were to be held now, the Opposition United National Party would in all probability win, as it has won every by-election since 1970. Discontent is running high: soaring food prices have hit all sections, not just the tea workers. The free rice allowance—Sri Lanka's equivalent of bread and circus—was cut last year from one measure to a half (enough for two days). Unemployment continues to rise and is now about 19 per cent of the labour force. But there won't be any election this year. The United Front Government spent its first two years forming a new republican constitution, which was adopted on May 22, 1972. The Government decided to date its own five year term from then. Last month the Opposition leader, J. R. Jayawardana, resigned to offer himself for reelection, as a symbolic protest against this bending of the rules.

Sri Lanka is now at a crucial turning point. From now on it could either free-wheel along the semi-socialist middle way it has followed so far (not unlike Britain's own), or veer sharply left and become the first country in the world to take the parliamentary road to complete socialism. At present the second course seems marginally

more probable, and the two snatched years of extra power could make it possible. Over the past five years the Sri Lanka Government has tried a slow but sure programme of socialist measures which have already significantly altered the economic balance. The most radical measure to date has been the Land Reform Act of 1972 which took over all privately owned estates over 50 acres, or about one seventh of all agricultural land. This land has now been turned over to the State Plantations Corporation, to local cooperative societies, and Chinese-style communes. The cooperatives have also been given a near monopoly in imports of essential consumer goods, so they now control at least three quarters of this trade. And the private landlord has been virtually abolished by the limiting of the number of houses a person can own to two.

These reforms have, as the veteran revolutionary Mr. Col. R. de Silva, now Minister for Plantations, gleefully puts it, brought the left in Sri Lanka "right up against the confining framework of capitalism". Points from the 1970 United Front manifesto that still have to be implemented include the nationalization of banks and of heavy and capital goods industries and the takeover of the tea industry. The two Marxist parties in the Government,

'The civil service has been politicized, and all three government parties now have massive uniformed youth leagues'

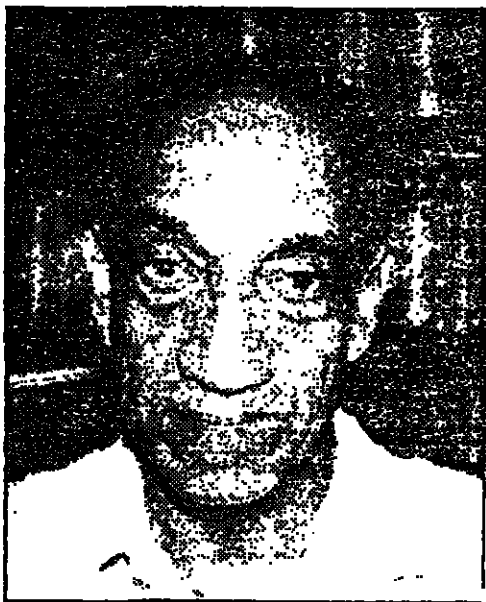
the Lanka Samasamaj Party and the pro-Russia Communist Party, are also pressing Mr. Bandaranaike's more moderate Sri Lanka Freedom Party for the takeover of all company estates (which escaped the land reform) and other big businesses. At the present time, the Sri Lanka Government is caught between the moderating influence of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and increasingly powerful internal political pressures for more socialism. The external constraints are strong. Sri Lanka's balance of payments, which until recently was very healthy, plunged from a deficit of 98 million rupees in 1973 (about \$6m) to 1,082 million rupees in 1974, and this despite a massive surge in exports. Oil accounted for less than half of this drop: the extra cost of

rice, flour and sugar was even greater. Foreign debt rose to a record level of nearly £300m in 1974. Sri Lanka never quite succeeded in taking off industrially, despite its highly educated workforce. But in the last two years, when even soap sales have been falling as people had to spend more on food, industry has actually been shrinking: manufacturing jobs fell from 124,000 in 1972 to 97,000 in 1974. Foreign investment is badly needed. Against this has to be weighed the growing influence of the left in Sri Lanka. The once Trotskyist Lanka Samasamaj Party went through long internal debates before it decided to enter into an electoral pact with the SLFP, but there is no doubt that from their point of view the strategy has paid off handsomely.

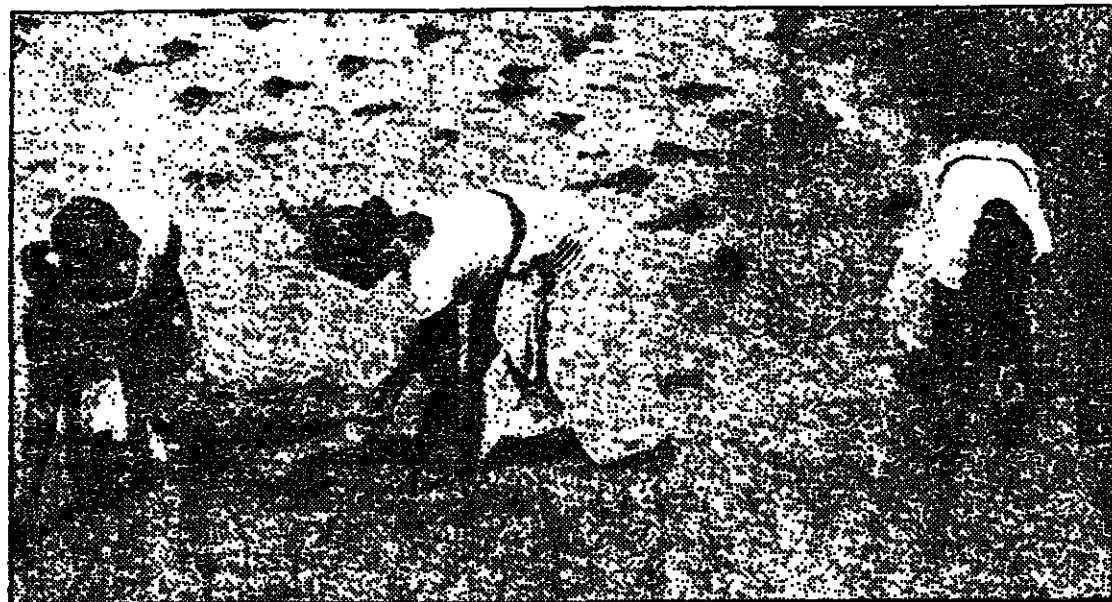
There are those in the SLFP who are opposed to further radical measures. But the simple fact of being in coalition with the extreme left has shifted the centre of power within the SLFP towards the left, away from fairly conservative people like Mr. Felix Bandaranaike towards radicals like Mr. Hector Kobbekaduwa, the Minister of Agriculture. The civil service has been politicized—even the lowest recruits have to be recommended by their local MP (though the UNP invented this system). All three government parties now have massive uniformed youth leagues with a distinctly paramilitary flavour (though actual weapons are banned). May Day in Colombo this year was an astonishing demonstration of the sheer numbers involved: at the very least there were 100,000, and the red shirts of the Marxist parties vastly outnumbered the blue of their coalition partners. The SLFP. Paradoxically, the left wing parties in the United Front Government have now become a major channel for the discontent of unemployed youth. In 1971, many of them joined in the unsuccessful armed uprising of the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna. Now they join the Marxists, who offer a double attraction. On the one hand, they can press for further socialist measures—on

the other, they get a job ticket as well. There is now no significant opposition left of the SLFP. The general spread of socialist ideology has been hastened by the government-controlled press, the enthronement of socialism in the constitution, the introduction of socialist thought as a compulsory subject in school. All this is taking its toll. On May Day even Mr. Jayawardana, the conservative UNP leader, felt it necessary to promise to "smash capitalism" even more thoroughly than the United Front. The next two years are likely to be a time of unrest and conflict in Sri Lanka. The right wing of the SLFP, supported by the big businessmen who contribute to party funds, are increasingly resistant to further radical steps, and there is a possibility (though somewhat remote) that they may break away and join forces with the UNP. But the left is now in a virtually unshakeable position. The Marxist parties and the left wing of the SLFP have so far relied on parliamentary means to forward their policies, but they will not hesitate to use their powerful trade union base and their youth leagues to achieve their ends.

Paul Harrison



Mr. Jayawardana (left) and Mr. De Silva: will the rice planters face a better future as the country goes further left?



## The extraordinary Czech 'spy caper'

Washington  
Mr. Josef Frolík, a major in the Czechoslovak secret police who defected to the West in 1968 with an accumulation of dossiers giving names and records of all Czech spies in the West, has made in a book a number of sensational claims about his success in winning agents among leading members of British trade unions, and mentions three Members of Parliament whom he claims were Czech spies.

According to Mr. Frolík, who was "labour attaché" in the embassy in London from 1964-66, there was a plot to lure Mr. Edward Heath—then an up-and-coming Tory Minister—to Prague and there incriminate him.

Mr. Frolík, who now lives in America, says the Czechs conducted a very extensive spying operation in Britain, presumably to supplement the activities of the KGB. He regularly changes jobs and aliases, and believes that his former comrades found his hiding place recently and tried to murder him.

Such an act of revenge is not very surprising if Mr. Frolík's memoirs are to be believed. He does not name his MPs, although the identities of two of them are perfectly clear. Nor does he name the union leaders, although at least one of them is easily identifiable. The allegations are so serious, and the nature of the book cannot be substantiated, that Mr. Frolík's testimony must obviously be treated with the utmost caution.

Furthermore, he is under the wing of the CIA, the was welcomed to the CIA in Washington by the Director of the CIA, Mr. Richard Helms (himself), and the Penkovsky papers are a sufficient example of the need to treat CIA material, ex-CIA agents and CIA protégés with much scepticism. Mr. Frolík says that his evidence against the three MPs was hearsay: he did not control their activities himself. He was a witness at the trial of Mr. Will Owen, MP, under the designation Mr. A.

Mr. Frolík's book, *The Czech Connection*, by Josef Frolík, published by Leo Cooper, £3.95.

Patrick Erogen

## Counting the spoons when the summit party is over

'The Helsinki meeting is an exercise in make-believe: detente is only an anti-suicide pact'

The road to Helsinki is paved with good intentions. The holding of a summit meeting next week will mark the end of the second stage of the so-called Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. It began three years ago and was a Russian idea, with the summit as a prime objective of Soviet foreign policy. I do not begrudge the Presidents and Prime Ministers of 35 states their pleasures, but once the celebrations are over, should we not count the spoons?

Detente has become a magic word, an invocation. Its literal meaning is "relaxation", the moment when a drawn bow is released. Its adoption does not in any way release nations from the obligation to secure, if not to maximize, their essential interests. The term "detente" is a new label on an old package. Given the fundamental differences which exist between Soviet and Western societies, detente can never be anything more constructive than an anti-suicide pact.

Any agreements which may be signed at Helsinki cannot be enforced but can they be measured? By changing the word "freedom" into "freedom"—at Soviet insistence—with regard to the movement of people and ideas, we lost the game. "Freedom" may mean anything, and very likely it will mean next to nothing. The *Times* in Moscow libraries: an exchange of pictures between the Tate and the Ministry of Culture, and show-biz in space. It is true that some families, cruelly separated, will now be reunited.

The Helsinki summit cannot fail to be a victory for Soviet diplomacy. The Soviet Union seems to believe that it should be free to spread its views in the West, but that reciprocal freedom constitutes an interference in the internal affairs of the communist countries.

Three years of bargaining at Geneva will have made no difference: the Russians who early in the conference equated freedom with pornography, are unlikely to be corrupted.

And what of the client-states of Eastern Europe? It has long been recognized that a principal Soviet objective is the legitimization of their hegemony in Eastern Europe. They seek—and have won—the Western seal of approval for the social transformation which they have forced, and which they have difficulty maintaining, on the countries of Eastern and Central Europe since 1948.

The West has had no eastern European policy worthy of the name. The people of the satellite states have been systematically

refused western help, and they will have after Helsinki, no reason to believe that any future rising or reform movement would be spared Soviet repression. We should not forget that we have been discussing freedom for countries that in Russian eyes enjoy no separate political identity from that of the USSR and which are, in terms of their social order, and their strategic position, part of the area of Russia's European hegemony, a glacis against the "aggressive" intentions of NATO.

The other reality of Eastern Europe is hatred of Russia. Fear and resentment lies just beneath the skin. The Soviet Union cannot psychologically mishandle nations for decades, force them into an alien system, and expect to be loved. There is no country that resents Russia as much as Poland. The Helsinki summit will be judged by many millions of people very cynically indeed: concessions that are unenforceable, and barely capable of measurement.

When the party is over, we should remind ourselves of the dual nature of Soviet foreign policy. One side shows a traditional caution and realism. The other reveals a millenarian Communist, it is often difficult to distinguish one from the other. Despite a certain realism in its dealings with the West, the links between Moscow and the foreign communist parties are never broken. Despite all the talk of detente, the Russians strive to widen still further their margin of military superiority in Europe.

Despite the practice of conference-diplomacy in Europe, Russia plays the revolutionary elsewhere. Like all nations-states, the Soviet Union has a legitimate need for security, yet she maintains force that are far in excess of that requirement. They speak of security: they practice hegemony.

The Helsinki summit is an exercise in make-believe. Even were limited agreements to be reached on arms control, force reductions, and crisis management, the differences between the two rival social systems would remain. We must sign an anti-suicide pact. Since 1972 in Geneva we have argued the case out of necessity. The Russian invitation to attend was an invitation we could not refuse. I hope that it has not been from fatigue and vanity that we have agreed to go to Helsinki.

Julian Critchley

The author is Conservative MP for Aldershot, and Chairman of the Defence Committee of the Western European Union.

## A question mark over President Amin casts a shadow across African unity

Summit meetings of the Organization of African Unity invariably seem to be beset by controversy, but this year's session, which opens in Kampala on Monday, seems likely to be more spirited and potentially more divisive than any of the others. Predictably, much of the controversy this time is centred around the host at this year's meeting, Field Marshal Idi Amin, who seems intent on dominating the proceedings. Three countries—Zambia, Tanzania and Botswana—have declined to send delegations to attend this week's OAU ministerial meeting because of their strong disapproval of Amin's regime and his aggressive policies towards them. It remains to be seen how many heads of state will turn up in Kampala next week but a substantial number of absentees would turn the meeting into a fiasco.

But it is not just the mercurial Ugandan leader who causes discussion within African ranks. With the number of member states rapidly approaching the 50 mark there are bound to be areas of disagreement both at international and domestic levels.

The whole question of "detente" in southern Africa has produced divisions between the "dialogue" states (Tanzania, Liberia, Senegal, Gabon and the Central African Republic), the "limited discussion" states (Zambia, Tanzania, Botswana and Mozambique) and the "hard-liners" (Libya, Algeria, Guinea, Kenya and Uganda) who see the Pretoria government as discreetly trying to encourage

There are other fractious issues for the OAU to contend with such as Angola, Eritrea, Afro-Arab solidarity and a border dispute between Mali and Upper Volta. All these and other problems require serious debate which, it is feared, may not be possible under Amin's volatile leadership. At one stage it was thought possible that the OAU could avoid having Amin as its next chairman, which customarily (but not invariably) goes to whoever hosts the summit, by electing the Mozambique President, Samora Machel, in his place. However, Amin, who has made lavish preparations for the meeting assisted by a \$30 million loan from Saudi Arabia, was determined not to be snubbed and his chairmanship of the organization no longer seems in doubt.

What sort of leader he will be remains to be seen. However, judging by his performance so far during this week's ministerial meetings—the tirade against Zambia, Tanzania and Botswana which were accused of being spies for South Africa and Rhodesia, and his announcement that thousands of Ugandan-trained saboteurs would make the white-ruled South "worse than Northern Ireland"—it would seem that he remains as unpredictable as ever. Nor do his plans for the summit itself, which include a safari rally, a Miss OAU 1975 beauty contest and a bombing attack on an island in Lake Victoria, suggest that he is approaching his task with as much seriousness as his predecessor, Somali President Siad Barre.

The aim of Uganda and the other "hard-liners" would seem to be to throw out the more conciliatory passages from last April's Dar es Salaam declaration which laid down a new strategy for liberating the white-dominated countries of southern Africa. Although the declaration stressed the OAU's determination to eliminate colonialism and racist domination in Rhodesia, Namibia (South West Africa) and South Africa, it did not rule out the attainment of these aims by peaceful means if possible—thus leaving the door open for future talks.

It is still expected that the Dar es Salaam declaration will be endorsed by the OAU heads of state despite the absence of such key figures as President Nyerere of Tanzania and President Kaunda of Zambia. However, any attempts by the "hard-liners" to introduce substantive amendments to the declaration could lead to a serious split within the organization which would only benefit South Africa.

If the summit divides over southern Africa it could also have difficulty finding a common approach to other contentious issues such as Angola, where the warring nationalist groups have temporarily agreed to a truce while a delegation goes to Kampala and Eritrea.

However, the emphasis on African disunity tends to disguise the very real achievements that have been made during the past year. Internationally the Africans, often in partnership with other Third World countries, have become

increasingly influential. The relatively generous terms of the Lomé Convention, for instance, were largely achieved as a result of their maintaining a united front. African states have flexed their muscles to greater effect at the United Nations, although this now seems to be causing a backlash in some Western nations.

Within Africa, too, there have been a number of notable developments, in particular the peaceful emergence of Mozambique as an independent state. If the same cannot be said about Angola, which is due to become independent in November, it is not from lack of trying by individual African states.

Less spectacularly, much has been achieved in the sphere of economic integration. The summit meeting is expected to endorse a proposal to create a single African airline: the first stage of a Pan-African railway network, and the long-awaited draft action programme on Afro-Arab cooperation has been drawn up (although the Arab states still refuse to offer oil at concessionary rates to the African states).

The OAU's new chairman will, at a considerable extent, bear responsibility for ensuring that the very real progress that has been achieved in Africa is not allowed to be dissipated in a new round of factional squabbling. The world can only wait and see whether President Amin will rise to the occasion and maintain Africa's credibility.

Nicholas Ashford

## The Times Diary

### When newsmen act immoderately

reference to a halt by coming to blows. John Snow, of London Broadcasting, was questioning Harold Lugg, the local party chairman, when he was pulled away by Roydon Bull of the *Workers Press*. Bull was upset because he thought Snow was preventing him asking his questions, and he invited Snow to come outside. The confrontation was clearly a controversy among bystanders, most of Wednesday night's agitation originated from further west, in the vicinity of Fleet Street.

Meanwhile the people of Newham were conducting themselves in a lively but more orderly fashion on the streets. While there clearly was controversy among bystanders, most of Wednesday night's agitation originated from further west, in the vicinity of Fleet Street.

Imperious  
I illustrate a detail from a likeness of Cecil Rhodes done in 1898 by G. F. Watts, one in a small exhibition of portraits by the Victorian painter which opens at the National Portrait Gallery. Writing to Watts's wife about the portrait,



Rhodes told her to advise her husband to "put in the eyes of the Sphinx looking over the desert into eternity for the future, only in my case for empire of the race that I believe to be the best and which will be the best if we educate the youth to their responsibilities and teach them work is paramount." The picture might help the cause 100 years hence.

Less than 100 years later, the cause is already lost. The exhibition is a marvellous evocation of the period when such sentiments were not laughable. The stern, worthy faces display no hint of a suspicion that their rigorous standards would not be maintained for ever. None of the subjects, I think, would enjoy life today, except Ellen Terry, to whom Watts was married for a year and whom he celebrates in two uncharacteristically tender portraits.

Good news for A. J. Simkins of Parsons Green from his bank manager, who writes, "I am pleased to advise you that your account has not been debited up to the date of business yesterday with the £10 which was not dispensed by the cash dispenser in Old Bond Street."

### Motherly

The Bethnal Green Museum has filled its central hall with the objects of pagan worship and ancient fertility rites, for the children's summer holidays. Pater Glenn, the research Mother, the Great Goddess, the Bride of the Corn and the Cripple Goat are among the occult-sounding exhibits in a display of modern corn dollies. Pater Glenn, the research assistant who has brought the collection together, says that corn dollies are among the last

surviving traces of the worship of the Great Mother venerated by the matriarchal societies who were the earliest farmers. Nowadays, though, they have lost their religious significance and are seldom made in the corn fields where they were traditionally fashioned from the last sheaf of the harvest. The modern examples, which include ornamental guns and umbrellas as well as traditional crosses, crowns and lovers' knots, are often made by Women's Institutes and some by retired businessmen.

### Scotched

The BBC and the Albert Hall have scotched a profitable racket by which piratical promoters have been lining their pockets for years. They have changed the season tickets for admission to the promoters' pit at the Proms from a booklet of individual tickets for each concert to a single pass card.

The result is that mercenary music-lovers will no longer be able to sell off their unwanted tickets for particular concerts at a profit. Last year's season booklets cost £12 and gave admission to 51 concerts at 23p each. The season holder could sell tickets for popular concerts (25 sold out last year) at black market prices, and even with unpopular concerts he could undercut the box office (£50p) and still sell at a profit.



"Did you enjoy your bath, Mr. Stonehouse? Mr. Stonehouse?"

### Dotty

The inhabitants of Tiverton are preparing for one of those immemorial rituals of English tradition that persuade foreigners we must be dotty. It is called the perambulation of the Town Leat, and it has been taking place every seventh year for at least seven centuries.

Tivertonians walking in ornate procession the 7½ miles up the stream that runs through their town, whipping it with withy wands as they go. The custom is derived from the gift of the stream to the town by Isabella de Fortibus, Countess of Devon, around 1250. She charged succeeding generations with the pious septennial duty of tracing it every inch of its way to its source, to make sure its course is intact.

But even the weariest river of tradition sometimes changes course. Tiverton has lost its borough status since the town's last paddle, so the six "Pioneers" who lead the procession (armed with picks, sledges and crowbars to demolish obstruc-

tions), will be recruited from the Tiverton District Council. Liberated schoolgirls are demanding to be recruited as "withy-boys" for this year. The argument against this is that after the withy-boys are traditionally debagged and ducked.

Puzzling sartorial note from a report on cereals in the *Financial Times*: "The Russians socks are being made to be long this year because of the slow progress made in replenishing."

### Requiem

The sickly pound has already been given up for dead in Bond Street. One art dealer there is now quoting prices of all his paintings in either Swiss francs or American dollars—dollars for oils and francs for drawings. Anyone wishing to buy with pounds will not be quoted a price in sterling until the day they actually hand over their cheque.

Achim Moefer, head of the gallery, says he recently lost £2,500 on a Marlene because of the fall in sterling between his customer's purchase and the arrival of his cheque. And he adds: "All my customers are foreigners now anyway: the British can't afford paintings any more."

PHS





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## THE HIGHEST SINCE 1940

It is an indisputably sad reflection on thirty years of postwar full employment economics that unemployment in Britain should now be close to a million and higher than in any month since the war. It is sadder still that this is no accidental by-product of some forecasting error in the Treasury or of some sudden unexpected shock to the system. If that were all, then the economy would be expected rapidly to regain its balance; and the onward march of full employment prosperity could continue its triumphal progress. Alas, the reality is more sombre. The unemployment is the inevitable and fully expected outgrowth of economic policies which are the absolute minimum necessary—perhaps not even that—to tackle the even graver threat of explosively accelerating inflation.

The sorrowful fact is that we no longer know how to maintain full employment. We certainly owe a great debt to John Maynard Keynes for elucidating the economics of unemployment. We understand from him, as was not fully understood before, the role of demand deficiency and its cumulative, or "multiplier" effects. What, however, we now have to admit that we do not know, as indeed Keynes himself acknowledged before his death, is how to correct demand deficiency without causing not merely inflation, but accelerating inflation.

Since accelerating inflation is not a practical element in any sustainable policy, it follows that we no longer can claim to know how to maintain full employment. At least we can hope that recognition of this fact, together with an unflinching concern for the waste and degradation that mass unemployment entails, will give us the humility to look for sounder, if less elegant, remedies for unemployment than ever-mounting budget deficits.

First, we have to recognize the shape of the trend on which unemployment is already firmly set. Certainly, the unemployment total will not rise by more than 50,000 a month for ever. Precisely where it will level off depends in part on the course of the world economy, in part on the actions of the British Government and in part on the speed with which home-made inflation responds to the recession.

Britain was slowest into the present recession of the major industrial economies and probably has farthest still to travel, though it is noticeable that ever since 1929 the amplitude of British output fluctuations has tended to be less violent than those in the United States and on the continent. Output has just about stopped falling in the OECD area as a whole, though the prospective growth in output over the next year will barely be enough to prevent the margin of slack from increasing and so unemployment from rising further.

On present policies the recovery of world trade is likely to be slow, though steady; and political logic may well lead the governments of the stronger economies—the United States, West Germany and Japan—to take increasingly powerful reflationary measures during the rest of this year and next. Britain may feel some benefit from these and a more vigorous rise in export demand in 1976.

The British Government can hardly afford to think of stimu-

lating home demand before 1977 at the earliest. Therefore much the most important element in the situation over the next eighteen months will be the degree of pay restraint that is shown. If there is total compliance with the new form of the social contract, unemployment may level off below two million in the second half of 1976. If not, the plateau may be higher and not reached until well into 1977.

This is grave but not entirely hopeless. Secondly, we need to look much more energetically than in the days when we believed budget deficits could cure everything at ways of improving the efficiency of the labour market. This not only brings down unemployment, but brings down the minimum level of unemployment required for reasonable price stability. It thereby in practice helps to counter inflation as well.

If it is not practical substantially to diminish the ravages of collective bargaining, which have such a deleterious effect on real earnings and on jobs, then at least we can scrutinize the other obstacles to matching men to vacancies: the perennial weakness of retraining facilities; the grotesque effects of local authority housing in tying people into unsuitable locations; and the possibility of remedying the competitive deficiency of the weaker areas by adequate regional "devaluations" (in the form of permanent general payroll subsidies to employer's in those areas). In these and other ways we must build a better and more enduring full employment policy which accommodates all the realities. Stiffer and stiffer doses of inflation just no longer work.

At the 309th meeting of the Security Council on May 29, 1948, a number of representatives referred to the seriousness of these military operations conducted against Israel, among them the Soviet representative, Mr. Gromyko, who said:

"What is happening in Palestine can only be described as military operations organized by a group of states against the new Jewish state. These operations are also aimed at preventing the existence in Palestine of an independent Arab state. The states whose forces have invaded Palestine have ignored the Security Council's resolution. This is not the first time that the Arab states, which organized the invasion of Palestine, have ignored a decision of the Security Council or of the General Assembly. It is not in the interest of the United Nations in general, or of the Security Council in particular, to tolerate such a situation, where decisions of the Council designed to put an end to warfare are being flouted."

When the Arab states refused to abide by the ceasefire, the Security Council adopted a resolution on July 7, 1948, in which it stated that the member states of the Arab League had rejected successive appeals of the Security Council for the prolongation of the truce and had subsequently engaged in new hostilities. Accordingly, the Security Council ordered the governments concerned to desist from further military action and declared that failure by any of the governments concerned to comply with this injunction would require the immediate consideration by the Council to take action under Chapter VII of the Charter.

Consistent with their belligerent policy against Israel, which stands in flagrant violation of their obligations under the Charter, Arab governments persistently flouted all resolutions of the United Nations aimed at the termination of the state of war and the establishment of peace. Outstanding instances of this policy were the Egyptian disregard of a Security Council resolution adopted in September 1951, calling upon her to terminate the restrictions on the passage of international commercial shipping through the Suez Canal wherever bound, a practice which the United Nations resolution determined "was inconsistent with the objectives of a peaceful settlement and the establishment of a permanent peace"; Arab violations of their obligations under the general armistice agreements, which were endorsed by the Security Council to prevent further incursions into Israel; the expulsion by Egypt of the United Nations peace-keeping force from Sinai in 1967 and the re-imposition of a naval blockade in the Gulf of Aqaba; the violation of the United Nations ceasefire agreements of 1967 by Syria and Egypt in the war of attrition and of the renewed ceasefire agreement of August 1970 by the Egyptian/Syrian attack against Israel in October 1973; last but not least, the Arab refusal to date to engage in direct peace negotiations between the parties as called for in Security Council Resolution 338.

Israel enjoys under the Articles of the Charter, rights of equal sovereignty and status which are not contingent upon the tactics of political warfare waged upon her by the Arab states and their camp followers.

In assaulting Israel's position in the United Nations, the Arab states are attempting to prevent the United Nations from playing a role in the establishment and maintenance of peace in the Middle East. In their long-standing and unsuccessful campaign to wipe Israel off the map, the Arab states are now trying to tear up the map itself.

Israel has for 27 years endured and withstood a continuous Arab onslaught which is now turned against the United Nations itself, threatening its universality and integrity. It is regrettable that at a time when strenuous efforts are under way to advance towards peace that the Council of the Saudi Arabian Embassy should find it opportune to advocate measures designed to wreck the prospects of peace.

Yours faithfully,  
RENAD AVITAL, Counsellor,  
Embassy of Israel,  
2 Palace Green, W8,  
July 23.

When, however, he moves from his monumental irrelevances on to the slippery ground of gross misrepresentation, the record needs to be set straight. It clearly demonstrates that not Israel but the Arab states have persistently flouted the basic resolutions of the United Nations concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict and violated their obligations under its Charter: "to practise tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours."

In 1947, when the United Kingdom relinquished its responsibilities under the Mandate, the United Nations, in recognizing Israel's right to national independence and sovereignty, asked that the Security Council "determine as a threat to peace, breach of peace or act of aggression, any attempt in alter by force the settlement envisaged in this resolution."

The armed attempt by Arab states (with the participation of Saudi Arabian contingents) to overthrow that settlement, led to strong reaction from the Security Council and the first concerted use of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter.

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When the Arab states refused to abide by the ceasefire, the Security Council adopted a resolution on July 7, 1948, in which it stated that the member states of the Arab League had rejected successive appeals of the Security Council for the prolongation of the truce and had subsequently engaged in new hostilities. Accordingly, the Security Council ordered the governments concerned to desist from further military action and declared that failure by any of the governments concerned to comply with this injunction would require the immediate consideration by the Council to take action under Chapter VII of the Charter.

Consistent with their belligerent policy against Israel, which stands in flagrant violation of their obligations under the Charter, Arab governments persistently flouted all resolutions of the United Nations aimed at the termination of the state of war and the establishment of peace. Outstanding instances of this policy were the Egyptian disregard of a Security Council resolution adopted in September 1951, calling upon her to terminate the restrictions on the passage of international commercial shipping through the Suez Canal wherever bound, a practice which the United Nations resolution determined "was inconsistent with the objectives of a peaceful settlement and the establishment of a permanent peace"; Arab violations of their obligations under the general armistice agreements, which were endorsed by the Security Council to prevent further incursions into Israel; the expulsion by Egypt of the United Nations peace-keeping force from Sinai in 1967 and the re-imposition of a naval blockade in the Gulf of Aqaba; the violation of the United Nations ceasefire agreements of 1967 by Syria and Egypt in the war of attrition and of the renewed ceasefire agreement of August 1970 by the Egyptian/Syrian attack against Israel in October 1973; last but not least, the Arab refusal to date to engage in direct peace negotiations between the parties as called for in Security Council Resolution 338.

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RENAD AVITAL, Counsellor,  
Embassy of Israel,  
2 Palace Green, W8,  
July 23.

## Threat to expel Israel from UN

From Mr. Renad Avital  
Sir, Far be it from me to intervene in the altercation between the Counsellor of the Saudi Arabian Embassy and *The Times*, nor do I intend to comment on the general philosophical reflections of Mr. Salem Azam (July 22) on matters of national and international conduct ranging over a wide field from Cuba, Africa and Greece to the Medical Register and the case of Mr. Stonehouse.

When, however, he moves from his monumental irrelevances on to the slippery ground of gross misrepresentation, the record needs to be set straight. It clearly demonstrates that not Israel but the Arab states have persistently flouted the basic resolutions of the United Nations concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict and violated their obligations under its Charter: "to practise tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours."

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July 23.

## The governance of Scotland

From Mr. John P. Mackintosh,  
Labour MP for Berwick and East Lothian  
Sir, I am sorry to hear that Mr. Sproule, sent you a letter (printed July 21), saying that "public opinion in Scotland and Westminster has changed rapidly" on devolution.

Mr. Sproule cites no evidence for this because there is none. The Scottish National Party has not lost ground and the devolutionists inside the Labour Party are still as positively of the opinion that a measure of devolution is necessary as they were at the time of the last election.

Moreover, there is considerable evidence that in many spheres of public life in Scotland, the prospect of settling educational, agricultural, health and planning matters in Scotland is attracting more and more interest and support. To give just some examples of the insatiable nature of the present position, the Scottish divorce law has remained unreformed, despite the English reform in 1969, and time cannot be found apparently to enact a reform of the licensing laws, though the committee concerned reported in 1973. All the work of the Scottish Law Commission designed to bring Scottish law up to date with current social situations has gone unexecuted for the same reason, and there is a limit to the patience with which people can observe this kind of delay and neglect.

## The Government's incomes policy

From Mr. Leslie Huxford, Labour MP for Nuneaton

Sir, What worries me most about today's letter (July 22) from fellow members of the Tribune group is that it is irrelevant to Britain's present crisis. A 30 per cent rate of inflation is almost relegated to an afterthought, with the threat to sterling an optional extra.

While I would substantially agree with them on their strategy for the restructuring and regeneration of British industry, the need to relieve our economy from the future short-term pressures of the Sterling Area, I believe that their proposals are even damaging to the immediate situation.

Britain is a bank. We cannot change that or escape the consequences of that overnight. If short-term depositors or longer-term investors believe they will not be able to withdraw their money or believe that it will lose value, they need to see a determined Government taking action to restore their confidence. If they saw Britain hastily trying to liquidate or nationalise overseas assets, adopting protectionist trading policy, or handing out bland assurances about indexation or guarantees of their holdings (I wonder how much that would cost?) they would hardly be reassured. It really is a question of confidence in Britain's ability to reduce drastically its inflation rate and return to a path of economic growth. The Tribune group's "alternatives" hardly guarantee this in the current situation.

I side with my colleagues, however, in regretting an excessive concentration on wages, as though they were the only factor in inflation. I don't like incomes policies or their effects. The current cover of thousands of bargains which are struck privately between small employers and their employees, and the certainly won't deter the £5,000 a year man with his car, expenses and other perks. In short, incomes policies bear hardest on the workers, who are the victims of the well-publicized.

Neither am I impressed by what the Government has so far promised on prices. Despite all Shirley Williams' valiant efforts, there are still too many prices which are bound to increase in the public and private sectors through pressures which will be constantly excused as being "already in the pipeline."

But with all its faults, I see the Government's "Attack on Inflation" as the only realistic alternative to the massive public spending cuts and unemployment both of which are the needs of the Conservative and the C.I.V. I will back it because of its voluntary basis. I have never yet seen any incomes

vision or care order is made, will be transformed into the caring agent. Under the care order, the social worker will have the discretion to consign the child either back home or into children's home provision (if any is available) ranging from a family group home to a secure unit. He has to balance the developmental needs of the child, his physical protection, his civil rights and those of his parents and the protection of society at large.

This impossible load should be shared with the court as the community representative. We need one specialised and integrated Family Court jurisdiction with all its members appointed as magistrates in the first place for their expertise and knowledge, as now happens uniquely on the Inner London Juvenile Bench. An open and freer dialogue between the Family Court, its clients and its professionals would be most likely a protection for the child than a guardianship device grafted on to present procedures.

Yours faithfully,  
J. REA PRICE,  
Director of Social Services,  
London Borough of Islington,  
17 Islington Park Street, N.1,  
July 24.

## MPs' salaries

From Mr. C. H. Sisson

Sir, The ordinary citizen can give up his last faint hopes of the House of Commons once Members have a vested interest in the prosperity of the Civil Service.

Yours faithfully,  
C. H. SISSON,  
Moorfield Cottage,  
The Hill,  
Langport,  
Somerset,  
July 23.

## Learning the art of democracy

From Mr. K. G. Collier

Sir, One cannot help being impressed by the extraordinary success of small numbers of politically active persons of Marxist or near-Marxist persuasion in achieving power and influencing policy. This has become increasingly conspicuous recently at many levels and in many contexts, whether in the Third World or in Portugal, in trade unions or in the National Union of Students, or among the students of the North London Polytechnic.

What is so striking about these people is, first, their dedication, their commitment, their detailed homework, their astonishing capacity for hard work; and, second, their expertise in political management, their sophisticated command of techniques for securing and maintaining power in an ostensibly democratic society.

In the Third World many such leaders have been systematically trained in Moscow; in Western countries they have been trained by lone continued membership of small dedicated groups. The question of supreme significance for us is: can a liberal democratic society of an open type not create a machinery for providing an analogous training for its own adherents?—a training that comprises, first, a thorough exploration of the values which underlie and justify this kind of society; second, a sophisticated study of the exercise of authority and power in civilized organisations and communities; and third a practical study of the processes of active representation, committee operation, joint decision-making and the other procedures for the collective resolution of conflict and formulation of policy.

The opportunities of collective action are too often abused by the unscrupulous and thrown away by the scrupulous, first, the consequent sense of helplessness among people of good will at all levels is very damaging. The training needs to be, not academic and detached in its orientation but skill-based and practical, with a considerable use of simulation techniques and small-group exercises. Are there not here the makings of an experimental scheme by one of the major foundations?

Yours faithfully,  
K. G. COLLIER, Principal,  
College of the Venerable Bede,  
University of Durham,  
July 22.

## BBC advisory machinery

From Mr. G. E. H. Mansell

Sir, The facts of the case which Mr. Brian Mead (Letters, July 24) quotes in support of his argument for an independent Broadcasting Council are inaccurately stated. The BBC did not "refuse" to make an apology on the air to a leading Portuguese politician, for the simple reason that it was not asked to do so.

The complaint came in a personal letter from the politician in question to a senior official of the BBC's South European Service, who was personally known to him. The BBC wrote back and apologized, having ascertained that it was proper to do so. There was no "impenetrable wall of self-defence."

It is doubtful if the complainant would have thanked us for taking the initiative in broadcasting a public apology, since this would have given further currency to the expression used in describing the political colour of his party, to which he originally took exception.

Yours faithfully,  
GERARD MANSSELL,  
Managing Director,  
External Broadcasting,  
BBC,  
Bush House, WC2,  
July 24.

## Styles and titles

From Mr. Hugh Montgomery-Massingberd

Sir, In recent weeks you have published feature articles about Lord Clark and Lord Hesketh, who were referred to as if they were not peers in their own right but younger sons of a duke or a marquess: "Lord Kenilworth" and "Lord Alexander Hesketh". These such salutations should appear in *The Times* as an indication of what little value is now attached to getting things right.

However, it is small wonder that there is a widespread lack of understanding of the difference between a substantive and courtesy title when there have been a procession of life peers who have been allowed to convert their familiar forename into a surname, hyphenate it with their original surname and then pass off the sorry confection as a peerage title.

These are hard times for pedants as the rules on styles and titles do not seem to be upheld by those whose role it should be to give a lead. For example, one questions the advice given to the Royal Family on such matters when one sees the styles "HRH The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips", and "HRH Princess Alexandra, the Hon Mrs Angus Ogilvy". The use of "Mrs" is surely wrong on three counts: the ladies are princesses (though there are Scandinavian precedents for "Mrs"); they are daughters of dukes (and as such retain their own style in marriage to husbands of inferior rank, eg. Lady Anne Phillips) and they are dames (who similarly retain their own style) to boot. It is also arguable whether "Princess Henry" would have been a more correct style than "Princess Alice" for the Dowager Duchess of Gloucester—the former would have avoided any confusion with HRH Princess Alice Countess of Athlone.

At *The Times* our function is to produce works of family and social history but some people regard us as a sort of information bureau on matters of title, etiquette, etc. We do what we can but it is difficult to act as a guide along a winding road when the signposts seem to be inconsistent.

Yours faithfully,  
HUGH MONTGOMERY-MASSINGBERD,  
Editorial Director,  
Burke's Peerage Ltd.,  
56 Walton Street, SW3,  
July 23.

## The National Trust

From Lord Wemyss

Sir, Your thoughtful leading article (July 2, 1975) on the growth and influence of the National Trust, and the threats of many kinds to its properties, allows me the opportunity to associate the National Trust for Scotland with the problems which you identify.

Your reference to the Drumhuie affair, the threat to take over inalienable lands for the purposes of constructing concrete oil produc-

tion platforms, already does this by implication for, of course, this issue was fought by the Trust in Scotland. The support given by our colleagues in the South is a good example of the way we work together for the protection of our national heritage and how the effect of development or legislation on the principles of one can be felt equally by the other.

Mention of Drumhuie reveals another and often overlooked aspect of ownership: our responsibilities to the people who live and work on

Trust lands. It was, indeed, largely in support of the wishes of local people that the Trust expended its great effort and £35,000 in contesting the Drumhuie proposal. This responsibility towards people is as sacred as the wider one under which we accept and hold properties for the benefit of the nation.

Yours etc.  
WEMYSS, President,  
The National Trust for Scotland,  
5 Charlotte Square,  
Edinburgh,  
July 8.







**NCR**Computers & Terminals  
NCR Limited 208 Marylebone Road, London NW1**THE TIMES**  
BUSINESS NEWS

مكزامن الاخبار

**LAING**LOCAL  
OR NATIONAL  
CONSTRUCTION SERVICE**Coal Board breaks even after £127m setback from mineworkers' strike**By Roger Violesey  
Energy Correspondent

The coal mining industry last year climbed out of a substantial loss-making situation. It should be able to improve its financial fortunes again in the current year, provided the miners accept a £6-a-week settlement and the demand for coal does not slump any further.

At the root of the National Coal Board's financial problems was the £127m loss resulting from the 1974 miners' strike. Last year, the deficit on mining operations was turned into a £3.5m profit. Added to this, other activities including North Sea gas, smokeless fuel production and chemicals made over £30m.

Interest charges and taxation turned this £33.8m operating profit into a small loss, which in turn was exactly eliminated by the sale of some of the board's assets.

Sir Derek Ezra, chairman of the NCB, said yesterday that the break-even position masked the fact that the industry had reduced the grants payable by the Government from £130m in 1973-74 to £68.2 last year.

In the current year he hoped to reduce the figure to £45.4m which was the level any comparable coal industry in Europe could expect in government assistance.

It was vital for the industry not to lessen its competitive position with oil. Deferred



Mrs N. Siddall, NCB's deputy chairman (left) and Sir Derek Ezra, the chairman, yesterday. Government's grants reduced.

domestic coal price rises of £2 a ton would come into force in the autumn but the board was asking not to put up prices again in 1975.

The NCB hoped that a £6-a-week wage rise might be absorbed without increasing prices providing an internal cost cutting campaign was a success.

A 5 per cent productivity increase target had been set for the current year which would bring a total output of between 115 and 120 million tons of deep mined coal. Productivity had slumped in the opening months

of the present financial year which, if not checked, would leave output below £15 million tons at the end of the year.

Sir Derek said geological problems in a number of the largest pits had contributed to the decline in productivity, and to a lesser extent there had been a fall in the efforts of individual miners. The board was running an all-out productivity campaign after the summer colliery holidays.

However, increases in productivity will result only in bigger stocks at the collieries unless the NCB can reach agreement with the electricity gen-

erating authorities on increasing the amount of coal they take for power stations this winter. The coal board wants the Central Electricity Generating Board to sign a deferred payment plan on the lines of that already in force with British Steel.

The BSC has agreed on a base stocking level of one million tons. Once this level is achieved the NCB will build up reserves which will be paid for only when used. The NCB is also negotiating with the CEGB about the base level for power station stocks at which the deferred payment system would start.

In the current year the board plans to invest £200m in its programme to meet the target of £50 million tons of output capacity. A third of this sum will go on mining machinery, another third on long-term projects including new pits, and the remainder on short-term schemes, including the replacement of existing equipment.

A further £60m will be invested in the North Sea. This figure will be refunded together with other offshore investments when the board's offshore activities are transferred to the British National Oil Corporation.

Sir Derek said the board would be asking for up to £200m compensation for lost future profits from the oil and gas.

**Anxiety on pace of state sector price rises**

By Hugh Clayton

Price rises in nationalized industries were racing ahead much faster than those in the private sector, Sir Arthur Cockfield, chairman of the Price Commission, said yesterday at a press conference to introduce the organization's report on the second quarter of this year.

"This has been a matter of some anxiety to the Commission," he said.

He added that the document included a new section, which analysed why in the six months to May this year nationalized industries accounted for almost 32 per cent of price rises, compared with less than 5 per cent in the previous six months and little more than 13 per cent in the year before that.

Moreover, in the six months to May this year the average increase in prices for the nationalized sector was 15.6 per cent, compared with 7.4 in private industry.

The Commission said in its report this did not represent the banking committee's increase in price restraint imposed from outside or from within before the Commission started work. On the contrary the faster increase in the nationalized sector merely reflected the fact that prices there had risen more quickly than in the private sector.

The report left nationalized industries at that point, and Sir Arthur declined to explain the discrepancy in rates of increase. He said the Commission had always endeavoured to isolate and draw attention to the causes lying behind increases in price.

The Commission was "independent of the ordinary Government machinery" and the report had been sent to members before publication of the White Paper, Sir Arthur said. The Government had gone for the main inflation culprit—wages.

Now that commodity costs had eased and the price rises resulting from recent high wage settlements had not yet worked through, the nation had a breathing space.

"What one can reasonably hope for is that as the benefit we have got from falling commodity prices recedes into the past, we will then get the benefit of the reduced pay settlements. What we have now got to hope is that the lower level of pay settlements will get us into the clear," he said.

Sir Arthur had said earlier: "The Government's initiative has come at the most favourable point. But I want to emphasize that we have now got to hope is that the lower level of pay settlements will get us into the clear."

At the meeting Mr Varley asked that the confidential report be studied further and suggested that the unions and management return for more discussions next week. He promised a government decision before the parliamentary recess on August 8.

Earlier, at the annual meeting of NVT, shareholders were told that the Government's refusal to renew £4m worth of export credit guarantees had forced the company to defer payment for committed supplies, and this would mean an early shutdown of the company's factories.

The decision to withdraw the guarantees had been made apparently because of high stocks of motor cycles, NVT said, but it appeared that shareholders had not been adequately briefed on the consequences.

As a result, the company must plan for the eventuality that there would be no further government investment to sustain a three-factory industry.

Letters, page 16

**Treasury decides against a wider use of cash limit controls this year**

By Tim Congdon

Cash limits, the system whereby the Government controls spending by imposing a money limit rather than one in volume terms, are not to be extended to new areas in the current financial year, according to Treasury witnesses at yesterday's meeting of the general subcommittee of the House of Commons expenditure committee.

They will come into operation on a more extensive scale only in the 1976-77 financial year.

The Treasury witnesses emphasized that the main intention of the system of cash limits on public sector pay was to ensure that government departments abided by the £6-a-week limit.

Although manpower needs would be closely watched, there would not be a cash limit on

public sector pay bills, only on public sector pay packets, they said. It was not part of the cash limit system to stop recruitment into the Civil Service or other public employment.

The Treasury has not yet made a decision about the publication of cash limits. Mr F. Jones, deputy secretary at the Treasury, said that at the appropriate point the public and Parliament might be told in advance what the cash limits for a particular year were.

However, the first chance for advance publication would be in the 1976 Budget, he said. The Treasury does not intend to announce the level of cash limits for the current financial year in those parts of Government spending where they are already being applied.

MPs also questioned the Treasury witnesses closely on the method of monitoring cash

limits if and when they came into force. They asked if the public would be informed of the expected pattern of government spending month by month through the year in order that a close check could be kept on its behaviour. But the Treasury witnesses said that no decision had yet been taken.

Concern was expressed by MPs that the Treasury did not appear to have decided on the method by which cash limits would be operated.

Some suggested that the Treasury's reluctance to disclose its plans might be attributable to a fear that the public might then become aware of the Government's expectations on inflation, as it would be possible to calculate the expected increase in public sector pay and prices by comparing the volume of spending projections with cash limits.

**Dr Burns defends his tight money policies**

From Frank Vogel

Washington, July 24

Dr Arthur Burns, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, told congressmen today that the chief cause of the recession was that inflation had run out of control. Because of the economic imbalances produced by inflation "the recession has been performing a painful, but unavoidable function."

The federal reserve chairman said the banking committee of the House of Representatives had new data would show inflation as remaining a serious problem in the United States. The Fed's modest tightening of monetary policies was intended to show it had not relaxed in its desire to fight inflation.

However, "the signs have multiplied in recent weeks that the economy is moving through a turning point from recession to recovery... we may be reasonably confident that a recovery in business activity will develop soon, if it is not already under way."

For the time being the Fed

had agreed to seek a monetary expansion rate on a currency-plus-time deposits basis of 5 to 7 per cent, but a somewhat tighter policy was likely in the months ahead.

Dr Burns noted that "the growth rates sought by the Federal Reserve, while appropriate in the present environment of high unemployment and unused industrial capacity, could not be maintained indefinitely without rekindling inflationary forces."

Mr Henry Reuss, the committee's chairman, demanded that the Federal Reserve "cease and desist" from its recent policies of slightly tightening liquidity and so producing increases in short-term interest rates.

To this Dr Burns replied that the Fed will continue on a "moderate money supply course" but recent tightening had to be done in view of the sharp rise in the money supply produced by the tax cuts and tax rebates enacted by the Congress.

**EEC reflation call omits Britain and Ireland**

Brussels, July 24.—All EEC

countries except Britain and Ireland should take early action to reflate their economies, the EEC Commission said today. In a recommendation sent to member countries, the Commission said the joint efforts should be led by West Germany, the Benelux countries and France, backed up to a lesser degree by Denmark and Italy. Action was needed in countries where the current balance of payments deficit, the rate of price increases and the public spending deficit were low enough to withstand it. Specifically excluded from the list were Britain and Ireland.

The investment outlook in the Community was bleak in

all member countries except Italy, the Commission's latest monthly economic report said. Most managements had reduced their planned investment expenditure in value terms for 1975. In general, optimism was greatest in the metal industries.

Charles Hargrove writes: M Jean Pierre Fourcade, the French Finance Minister, said the recovery of the dollar which should reach Fr 4.40 to 4.50, would improve the prospects for French exports and have a favourable impact on the new instalment of reflation measures now under study by the government. But no decision had been taken about these for the present, he added.

German reflation, page 17

**City urged to balance investor role**

By Christopher Wilkins

With the debate gathering momentum on the attitude of financial institutions to the businesses they invest in, Mr Doryk Weyer, senior general manager of Barclays Bank, last night urged the City to look again at its traditional views on the subject.

He felt the City should try to balance against its duty to small savers and its function as a market some deeper interest in the companies in which it invests so heavily.

Speaking at the annual dinner of the London and Northern Group, Mr Weyer said the investment institutions' traditional case was that as trustees for millions of small savers it was their duty to maintain the safety and liquidity of their funds.

The counter argument was, first, that since business ownership had been divorced from management, there had been no real supervision of executives running large public companies, and there ought to be.

Secondly, it was an intolerable waste of real resources to allow a great industrial company's capital to be treated merely as a marketable security.

He said: "If this view is taken then it is not acceptable for those who own shares simply to vote with their feet by selling them at the least sign of trouble."

**£800m for France in Saudi deal**

Saudi Arabia will lend France between Fr5,000m and Fr8,000m (£600m-£800m) at a fixed rate of interest for a period of seven to 10 years under an economic and financial cooperation agreement.

No details of the projects involved were given, but the loan will apparently cover petrochemicals, desalination plants and participation in the creation of an Arab arms industry.

**Inflation blamed for £157m rail loss**

By Peter Scott

British Rail lost £157.8m in 1974—three times more than the £51.6m deficit in the previous year—according to the annual report and accounts of the British Railways Board which are published today.

The board places the main blame for this on the combined effect of inflation and price restraint.

"It is not difficult to appreciate the eventual result of holding prices below costs at a time of accelerating inflation," the report says. "This illustrates the dilemma the Government faces in the public's desire to have it both ways—to keep prices below costs and at the same time avoid an increasing call on public funds."

The board points out that it was not possible to insulate British Rail from the cost of inflation. The railways' rate of inflation was considerably higher than the increase in the retail price index because of their particular mix of costs in which manpower—which accounts for 65 per cent of total costs—steel and oil are predominant elements.

The report adds: "This premium has been in 1974 when the price restraints of 1972 and 1973 finally caught up with us. In 1972, costs rose by 10 per cent; we were allowed to increase prices by 8 per cent. In 1973 costs rose by 6 per cent; we were allowed to increase prices by 3 per cent."

When Mr Healey eventually allowed British Rail to increase fares again in last November's Budget, the price base was so low that the market could not take the increase, the board complains. The result: costs rose by 33 per cent and prices only by 16 per cent.

Last year the railways alone, excluding other British Rail operations such as hotels, ships and hovercraft, lost £17m, compared with just over £4m in 1973. Without grants of £154m for unremunerative passenger services, the railways' deficit would have been more than £250m.

The board comments: "Some of the responsibility for this loss was that of the industry itself: for example, over £18m was lost as the direct result of industrial action on the railway."

But far more important than

the money was the goodwill forfeited from customers, who all too often in recent years have suffered serious hardship as the result of industrial action. The customer is less interested in who is to blame than in getting the service for which he has paid hard-earned cash."

The board emphasizes that in spite of the "shock" headlines that greet every new fare increase, earnings per passenger-mile in real terms were slightly lower last year than in 1969.

"All this may give customers little comfort, but it may help them to understand why they face such large increases in 1975," it comments. "Unfortunately, unpleasant economic facts do not go away if you ignore them for a couple of years—they always get worse."

On the brighter side, the board points out that while British Rail carried less freight last year because of the recession, it fared better than most railways in the other EEC countries.

While some other European railways lost a good deal of their passenger business, British Rail increased theirs by about 700 million passenger-miles. Fare receipts were 10 per cent

higher than in 1973, at £329m, level for 11 years at its highest.

The volume of freight carried declined by 15 million tonnes in 1974, but total receipts rose slightly from £271.3m in 1973 to £280.8m.

British Rail's shipping services lost £1.8m in 1974 against a profit of £1.5m in the previous year. One of the reasons was the increase in the price of oil, which pushed fuel bills up from £2m in 1973 to £6m in 1974.

However, British Transport Hotels remained profitable in 1974, although their profit was cut from £1.2m to £700,000. Mr George Hill, chairman of British Transport Hotels, commented: "The results, seen in perspective, are reasonable considering the traumatic blows which the hotel and catering industry suffered last year."

Freight grant: Mr John Gilbert, the Minister for Transport, has agreed to pay a grant to the British Railways Board to meet the estimated £70m loss on its freight activities in 1975.

\*Annual Report and Accounts for 1974, published by the British Railways Board. Available from HMSO, £1.25.

**Unemployment register is swollen by 15,000 a week**

Continued from page 1

by almost two-thirds. Moreover the present total is probably equivalent to much lower figures in previous years because of the increased efficiency of registration.

Although there may be no alternative for the Government, because of the priority now being given to the fight against inflation but to accept higher unemployment, the increasing burden that is imposing on the country is becoming ever more obvious.

It was estimated in Whitehall yesterday that the cost of providing unemployment benefits and supplementary benefits for a million unemployed persons for a year would amount, at present rates, to £840m. That will add to the difficulties already faced by the Government in financing its expenditure, although, presumably the predictable part of such costs has already been partly allowed for in its estimates.

With the relatively late onset of the economic recession in Britain, compared with other industrialized countries, the hitherto rather favourable comparison between the number of jobless here and the totals elsewhere has faded. In other EEC countries unemployment is rising, but at a rather slower pace than earlier this year.

An EEC economic survey published in Brussels yesterday showed that about 4,500,000 people were out of work in the Community, about a half more than a year ago.

The sharpest regional increases came in Scotland, Wales, the North-west and the west and east Midlands, all of which saw the level of unem-

**UNEMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES**

The following are the monthly figures for Great Britain released by the Department of Employment yesterday:

	Unemployed	Total Seasonally adjusted	Adults seasonally adjusted
1973	000s	000s	000s
Dec	486	480	2.1
1974			
Jan	606	538	2.4
Feb	590	524	2.4
March	590	547	2.4
April	647	546	2.4
May	635	548	2.4
June	516	562	2.3
July	567	577	2.5
Aug	656	587	2.9
Sept	647	607	2.8
Oct	618	607	2.7
Nov	621	613	2.7
Dec	†	†	†
1975			
Jan	712	678	3.3
Feb	757	705	3.3
March	768	722	3.4
April	900	750	3.9
May	813	817	3.6
June	831	864	3.6
July	1036	938	4.5

† Excluding school leavers and adult students.

† Figures not available.

† Provisional.

† Estimate.

Unemployment rose last month by 0.4 per cent of the labour force (on an adjusted basis). The North remains by far the worst affected, with 5.9 per cent of all its employees now out of work. By contrast the South-east remains the least affected, with just 2.9 per cent out of work. The estimated total on short-term in mid-July is put at 145,000. That provides the only encouraging sign.

**Land Securities seek £21m**

By Our Financial Staff

Britain's largest property company, Land Securities Investment Trust, yesterday announced it is seeking to raise £21m through a rights issue of 10 per cent convertible unsecured loan stock to be made to ordinary shareholders and holders of existing convertible stocks.

The decision to make a rights issue of convertible stock represents a complete volte face on the policy of the past two years,

during which Land Securities has been spending heavily to buy in its existing convertibles.

The group is to issue £9 of stock for every 100 shares: and it will be convertible into ordinary shares between 1978 and 1990, at a conversion rate of 57 shares for every £100 of stock. Sub-underwriting was successfully completed yesterday. The brokers handling the issue are Rowe & Pitman, Hurst-Brown and Cazenove.

Financial Editor, page 17

**6pc retain their shareholdings in British Leyland**

By Our Financial Staff

Some 16 per cent of British Leyland's shareholders, controlling 130 million shares, or 22 per cent of the equity, have remained in the company, either by design or by default, according to provisional company estimates following the expiry yesterday of the deadline for accepting the Government's 10p a share cash offer.

Mrs Muriel Gumbel, chairman of the British Leyland Shareholders Association, told a meeting of her members that the Scheme of Arrangement permitting the capital reconstruction of the company would be opposed when it goes for ratification before the Chancery Division of the High Court on Monday.

The dissident shareholders will argue that although the Scheme was passed by an overwhelming majority of votes, the votes in favour were less than half the total that could have been cast.

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**NVT says three-day week inevitable without aid**

Three thousand motor cycle workers begin their two-week summer holiday today in the knowledge that they face a three-day week and possible redundancies on their return.

Mr Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, yesterday met the management of Norton Villiers Triumph, union officials and representatives of the Meriden motor cycle workers' cooperative, but said he had not yet made a decision on the industry's request for a further £30m state aid package.

Immediately after the meeting, NVT said that the lack of a government decision made three-day working inevitable when workers returned from their holidays on August 11.

It had been called by Mr Varley to allow union and management representatives to discuss a report on the troubled industry from the Boston Consulting Group of London. But they had received copies of the report only an hour before the meeting.

At the meeting Mr Varley asked that the confidential report be studied further and suggested that the unions and management return for more discussions next week. He promised a government decision before the parliamentary recess on August 8.

Earlier, at the annual meeting of NVT, shareholders were told that the Government's refusal to renew £4m worth of export credit guarantees had forced the company to defer payment for committed supplies, and this would mean an early shutdown of the company's factories.

The decision to withdraw the guarantees had been made apparently because of high stocks of motor cycles, NVT said, but it appeared that shareholders had not been adequately briefed on the consequences.

As a result, the company must plan for the eventuality that there would be no further government investment to sustain a three-factory industry.

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**How the markets moved**

The Times index: 122.12 -2.63

The FT index: 283.4 -5.1

**Rises**

Amal Coils 60p to 480p  
Benson Int 15p to 180p  
BP 15p to 157p  
Braid Grp 24p to 13p  
Douglas R. M. 3p to 45p  
Gillett Bros 15p to 155p  
Guthrie Corp 5p to 180p

**Falls**

Barclays Bank 2p to 240p  
Bechtam Grp 4p to 275p  
Boots 18p to 18p  
Brit Am Tob 7p to 288p  
Dunlop Hldgs 2p to 43p  
Fisons 4p to 334p  
Hammerston 15p to 325p

Equities were nervous ahead of MLR decision. Gilt-edged securities lost some of early gains. Sterling rose by 5 points to 52.1800. The effective devaluation rate was 25.8 per cent.

**On other pages**

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**THE POUND**

Imp Cold Store 5p to 160p  
Jones Stroud 2p to 48p  
Laird 1p to 24p  
Municipal 5p to 115p  
Priest, E. 3p to 42p  
Tunnel Hldgs 5p to 111p  
Western Areas 8p to 558p

**Falls**

Hawker Sid 5p to 248p  
Imp Chem Ind 3p to 247p  
Land Sec 11p to 148p  
NVT 10p to 280p  
Poko Wallend 15p to



# La Roche faces EEC anti-trust suit

By David Cross  
Rushmore, June 24

The EEC Commission today accused Hoffmann-La Roche, the Swiss pharmaceutical giant, of breaking the strict anti-trust rules on sales of vitamin products within the Community.

M. Albert Borschette, the commissioner for competition policy, told a press conference in Brussels that legal proceedings had opened against the group for alleged restrictive practices and the abuse of a monopoly position.

According to M. Borschette, Hoffmann-La Roche had granted special rebates to customers buying all or most of their vitamin products from the group.

Since the commission opened its anti-trust case into the activities of Hoffmann-La Roche some months ago, the Swiss group has changed its sales practices to conform with EEC anti-trust rules. A statement issued by La Roche in Brussels today said that it had "endeavoured to operate within the letter and the spirit of the Community's competition law, and in spite of an unclear legal situation had already decided a while ago to change these agreements".

Nevertheless, this new situation has not deterred the commission's trust-busters. As M. Borschette put it today: "The fact that you stop doing something, does not mean you are innocent."

Under the Community's competition rules, Hoffmann-La Roche has been given three months to reply to the commission's accusations. A meeting has been arranged for late September at which the Swiss group is expected to explain its case. If this fails to satisfy the commission it can impose a large fine on La Roche, which could be contested only by an appeal to the European Court of Justice.

M. Borschette refused to comment today on what he described as "the tragic case" of Mr. Stanley Adams, a Maltese-born British national, who was a former employee of Hoffmann-La Roche. It was partly on his evidence that the commission was able to base

its legal case against the Swiss group.

Mr. Adams was arrested by the Swiss authorities last December on charges of passing on economic secrets, but subsequently released on bail after political and legal pressure from the Community. His wife committed suicide, apparently under the strain of her husband's arrest.

Malcolm Brown writes: La Roche, in a statement issued in Basel, laid heavy emphasis on the role played in this affair by Mr. Adams. Roche, it said, had received from the commission a communication listing complaints which concerned the already cancelled agreements.

## CEI board agrees on compromise changes

By Derek Harris

A campaign for radical reform of the Council of Engineering Institutions, threatening a split in the umbrella organization for 15 chartered bodies, virtually fizzled out last night.

By what was described as an "overwhelming" agreement, it was decided at a private CEI board meeting that there would not be direct election of a substantial number of the CEI governing board by individual chartered engineers.

A block of six institutions had wanted this, led by the three, the Civils, Mechanicals and Electricals. It was the big three who precipitated nearly 12 months of controversy over the CEI's structure by attacking it for ineffectiveness and other weaknesses.

It was apparent that at the vote at least some of the six must have gone over to the formula the CEI will now follow. If the Privy Council agrees to changes in the CEI charter and by-laws, individual corporate members of institutions will be able to vote only through their own institutional representative on the CEI governing board.

The board will, however, be streamlined from 48 members to 24. This should help to speed up decision making. A new committee is to be set up to strengthen links with regional organizations, and its chairman will be an ex officio member of the board.

But there was a strong echo of the much criticized federal structure of CEI in a special safeguard provision which would be voted on only by representatives of the 15 institutions.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Fresh start for motor cycle industry?

From Mr D. H. Probert

Sir, Mr John W. Hatch's comment (July 16) that the heavy losses of Norton Villiers-Triumph is another chapter in a saga of industrial incompetence is surely a misunderstanding of the true reasons of the NVT situation. The NVT losses would appear to be mainly a result of the effects of government intervention as to the extent of their commitment in the motor cycle industry.

I joined the BSA Group as an executive director at the end of 1971, following the first collapse of the company and its subsequent reorganization under the chairmanship of Lord Shawcross.

At first sight the reasons for the downfall of BSA in 1971 appeared relatively simple, in that a number of design changes had been introduced to the motor cycle range which had resulted in production difficulties with consequence that BSA had large stocks of unfinished motor cycles at the end of the selling season, and had substantially exceeded its borrowing powers.

As a result of Lord Shawcross taking the chairmanship of BSA, bridging finance was provided to enable stocks to be completed and for operations to continue on a reduced scale. In the event the problems were far more fundamental.

The motor cycle division in direct contrast to the other activities of BSA, had been mismanaged for a period of two decades. In particular, the pro-

duct range was obsolete and uncompetitive and production facilities had been starved of capital expenditure. When new plants had been purchased it had been on a specific straight replacement basis, and little of the benefits of the advances in production engineering had been obtained.

Labour relations, particularly at the Meriden motor cycle plant, had been appalling since the early 1950s. There had been a history of the company "laying-off" the Meriden operatives in the autumn at the end of the selling season and the operative going on strike in the spring for higher pay, the start of the selling season.

The new BSA board concentrated the production of motor cycle assembly at Meriden on the basis that this was the most modern/efficient motor cycle factory in the United Kingdom. Meriden continued to suffer from industrial disputes but it is difficult to overcome a history of bad industrial relations in 18 months.

The volume of motor cycles which the board chose to manufacture in 1972 was that volume which utilized the maximum amount of its existing work in progress, thus enabling stocks to be turned into cash in order to reduce borrowings.

As a financial rescue operation for the United Kingdom the 1971 reorganization was successful. If BSA had gone into liquidation in 1971, so soon after Rolls-Royce, it is highly likely that a number of other engineer-

ing companies would have been affected. During Lord Shawcross's chairmanship liabilities to banks and creditors were reduced by 30 per cent; a further 30 per cent had the security of finished motorcycle stock which was completely sold by October 1973.

The reduction in liabilities was achieved by running-down the large stocks of work in progress. It was obvious, however, that BSA, although capable of reducing its liabilities, could not generate profits to be able to finance the new motor cycle model range and the plant replacement programme which was needed if the company was to survive in the long term.

It was this that resulted in the discussions with the DTI and Manpower Services Board, followed by the collapse and suspension of the BSA share entry and the ultimate formation of NVT.

Although one wishes Mr R. Dennis Poore and his management team well, one wonders if the stagnant period of two years resulting from the Meriden strike and government intervention is too great an obstacle for NVT to overcome.

If the Government decide that there should be a motor cycle industry it would perhaps be far better to make a cash grant to the industry to enable it to start with a fresh "green field" start to be made.

DAVID H. PROBERT,  
4 Blakenfield Drive,  
Barnt Green, Birmingham.

## £100 wage scorned by Mr Jones

By Ronald Kershaw

Because the present rate of inflation was so deplorable, Mr Jack Jones, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union, said in Leeds yesterday, "to talk about £100 a week is to talk about 100 pieces of toilet paper and that is no good to the miners or anybody else."

His comments, made at a press conference before he addressed the Yorkshire regional committee of his union, were reiterated later. He told delegates: "I am not one who thinks wage increases are the main cause of our troubles. Quite frequently the frightening level of wage claims has been developing out of fear for the future."

Mr Jones regarded the 56 government ceiling as a flat rate increase. He said: "I am aware there are some employers who will say they cannot afford it. Any employer who says that must be prepared to put their books to the test."

"Our members, most other workers and all housewives are looking to us to lead the attack on inflation and unemployment. In recent weeks we have had to face up to this more crucially than ever before."

"The crisis we have been going through is the worst since the thirties."

## Report says building order books poorest for a decade

By Malcolm Brown

There is still no clear sign that the worst of the present recession in construction is over, according to a report published yesterday by the National Joint Consultative Committee, the body which provides a discussion forum for the building professions and trades.

Last year was disastrous for the industry and its short-term prospects are still "grim".

Examining the work of architectural practices it says that the value of new commissions in the fourth quarter of last

year was little more than half that achieved in the period from mid-1972 to mid-1973.

Although the rate of decline in the fourth quarter was a good deal slower, there is no reason to believe that the bottom of the trough has yet been reached, although it should not be far off, the NJCC claims.

The level of contractors' new orders, it adds, is the lowest for a decade and in the last three months of 1974 the overall output in the construction industry had fallen to a value passed eight years ago.

## US recovery 'unlikely before 1977'

By Tim Congdon

The American economy will be "struggling with the deadweight of a large backlog of idle resources for the next several years", according to Dr Brimmer, a former governor of the United States Federal Reserve.

He gave warning that the present recession, although it may have new bottomed out, will not give way to a recovery until 1977.

Dr Brimmer, who was speaking at a luncheon given by the American Chamber of Commerce in London, said that the main cause of the depth and severity of the recession was the restrictive money supply policy followed by the Federal Reserve. He urged the Federal Reserve to aim for a higher money supply growth rate of 8 per cent to 10 per cent, as compared to its present 5 per cent to 7 per cent.

But Dr Brimmer did feel that past policies had produced important benefits. He referred particularly to "a sharp decline in the rate of inflation". Moreover, projections "suggest that there is no reason for anyone to expect an early rekindling of double-digit inflation in the United States", he said.

Money supply policy: "The Federal Reserve in the United States is actively and declaredly pursuing a money supply policy", according to W. Greenwell & Co, the stockbrokers, in a supplement to their latest *Monetary Bulletin*. The stockbrokers contrast the Federal Reserve's behaviour with that of the Bank of England which does not publish money supply targets.

Money supply movements indicate future interest rate movements, they suggest. They acknowledge that "over the short run the money supply is outside the Federal Reserve's control".

But they argue that "the Federal Reserve reacts to the money supply behaving in an undesired fashion by lowering interest rates if the money supply is undershooting its target and raising interest rates if the money supply is overshooting."

## Whisky redundancies fear

Short time working and redundancies are threatened in the Scotch whisky industry because of "monstrous taxation", Mr Adam Bergius, chairman of the Scotch Whisky Association's information and development committee, said yesterday.

He told a luncheon in Glasgow that the industry—despite exports worth £320m last year—was facing problems. Government policy, he said, had been "over hostile and unhelpful", for far too long.

The latest tax increases meant that the duty element per bottle was £2.57, with at least a further 30p VAT added to the retail price.

The tax was "no doubt still based on the erroneous assumption that the industry can stand any burden placed on it and that the consumer will pay any price for his favourite drink".

Rigorous economies were being effected throughout the industry, including part-time working and loss of employment, he stated.

Exports of Scotch whisky earned a record £164m during the first six months of the year, but the volume during this period fell by 2 per cent.

Mr Bergius called for a vigorous attack, at diplomatic level, on the impediments to the sale of Scotch whisky imposed by foreign governments.

## Business appointments

### Tootal menswear head joins main board

Mr W. Norman Hornsby has been made a director of Tootal. He is chairman of the group's menswear division.

Mr E. Tomlinson joins the board of Ranks Hovis McDougall and is succeeded as managing director of the bakery division by Mr R. F. Lister.

Since his retirement from the chairmanship of the Stock Exchange, Mr C. A. Loveday is relinquishing his partnership with Rowe & Pitman, Hurst-Brown, but is remaining an associated member.

Brandts has named Mr A. B. Greener, of its international banking department; Mr J. R. Kinder, of its industrial department; and Mr C. I. Marley, of its corporate finance department, as directors.

Mr Thomas Taylor joins the board of Vantona.

Mr R. J. Wyles, and Mr C. P. W. Villy have been made directors of British Island Airways.

Mr James McCurdie has become finance director of West-Pacific Value.

Mr Robert Aschell, until recently EMI group representative in Japan, has been made managing director of EMI's record subsidiary in Mexico, EMI-Capitol de Mexico. He succeeds Mr John Bush, who becomes managing director of EMI's record and music publishing subsidiary in Italy, EMI Italiana.

Mr A. C. Ferguson has been made a director of W. & T. Avery. The new deputy director of research for the Post Office's Research Centre at Martlesham Heath, as from September 1, is to be Mr Clive Foxell, at present managing director of GEC Semiconductors. He takes over from Dr J. R. Tillman, who is retiring.

Mr Peter Winfield becomes senior partner of Healey & Baker on the retirement of Mr Mervyn Orchard-Lisle. Mr Mervyn Orchard-Lisle is to be a consultant, concerning himself particularly with the firm's interests in France, Belgium and Holland. Mr Audrey Orchard-Lisle will continue as consultant partner in the Healey & Baker practice in the United Kingdom.

Mr James Miller, financial director and company secretary, now becomes managing director of Ayrshire Metal Products.

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## Taxation system is 'becoming unworkable'

Mr William Clark, Conservative MP for Croydon South, and chairman of the Income Tax Payers' Society, says the present system of taxation is becoming unworkable.

Introducing the society's annual report, published yesterday, Mr Clark blamed frequent and fundamental changes in tax legislation for the situation. The difficulties caused by the complicated nature of the new tax laws were accentuated by their partly retrospective character.

It was small wonder, Mr Clark continued, that taxpayers were confused and that the administration was hard pressed. No tax system could be fully effective unless it was generally understood and broadly accepted.

The immediate direct effect on the Income Tax Payers' Society of recent legislative changes has been that its advisory service has had the busiest year in its 34 years' history.

## Confusion over insurance claims

From Mr N. Down

Sir, Your correspondent (Mr R. C. W. Bardell, July 11) attempts to clear up the confusion on house valuation for insurance purposes by pointing out that the sum insured should represent the cost of rebuilding at present-day prices plus the necessary associated expenses.

However, according to a statement by a member company of the British Insurance Association, of which Mr Bardell is secretary-general, even when property is insured at the full replacement value, "claims for all property are subject to a deduction representing the natural depreciation which has taken place prior to a loss or, looked at another way, an allowance for the betterment which the insured receives when claim damage is repaired".

It thus appears either that there is confusion within the British Insurance Association on this matter, or that the policy holder is required to pay a premium based on the rebuilding cost but may claim only that which is equal to the depreciated value of the building.

Yours faithfully,  
N. DOWN,  
Penshurst,  
Westfield,  
Ipswich, Suffolk,  
July 11.

## Government support must continue

From Mr J. W. Hatch

Sir, I am grateful for Mr Dennis Poore's prompt and courteous reply (July 17) to my letter. It may be right that the points I raise are now academic; but it is important to recognize, perhaps as a help in solving similar industrial problems, that the present position of the motor cycle industry is to some extent the result of mistakes in the way NVT reorganised itself.

May I make the following points:

First, if the first objective was "to stop the rot" the policy adopted by NVT has not yet achieved this.

Second, the "accountancy advisers" to BSA in the 1971-72 period were associated with a well-known firm of industrial and engineering consultants who in fact seconded one man full time to BSA for many months to help supervise the run-down at Small Heath (which, incidentally, involved the transfer of some modern machine tools to update the Meriden plant). Strange things happened in BSA, but I can hardly believe that the company employed two industrial consultants simultaneously advising diametrically opposed action.

Third, Mr Poore defends the reliance on Small Heath, in place of Meriden, on the ground that it was big enough to manufacture the whole of the Triumph output of this phase. In fact, of course, a large motor-cycle output was not badly needed, since all NVT could do with it was to incur massive losses in its production and sale.

Finally, there is a similar point when Mr Poore claims merit for £100m of motor cycle exports without mentioning that these were only achieved at the cost of losses incurred by BSA and NVT, which must have run into tens of millions of pounds during the period of five years. Exports achieved only at this sort of cost cannot be maintained and must be a vast waste of the country's material and labour resources.

Whatever view one takes of what has happened in the past, I strongly support Mr Poore's view that the Government, having initially promoted this venture and supported the Meriden cooperative, must see the industry through, although it is now saddled with three plants when it need only have had two.

J. W. HATCH,  
Penna Farm, Barry Lane,  
Chorleywood, Hertfordshire.

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J. W. HATCH,  
Penna Farm, Barry Lane,  
Chorleywood, Hertfordshire.

# Land Securities

For the year ended 31st March 1975, the income from completed properties after taxation was £9,432,000, and the final dividend of 2.475p per share brings the total for the year to 3.975p per share which, together with the associated tax credit, is equivalent to a total gross distribution of 6.046p per share, the maximum permissible under the provisions of the Counter Inflation (Dividends) Order 1973.

At 31st March 1975 Messrs. Knight Frank & Rutley valued the Group's completed investment properties at £805,108,000; the cost of properties held for or in course of development was £111,304,000, of which properties in course of development accounts for approximately £70m and the remaining £41m relates to properties held for development. Based on these values without adjusting for taxation payable if properties were sold and assuming all conversion rights were exercised the net asset value per Ordinary Share is 234p.

Progress on the existing programme has been satisfactory but few new developments have been started. A review of projects for which no irrevocable commitments existed has led to several schemes being terminated; this is reflected in capital commitments which at 31st March 1975 aggregated £60,893,000 the comparable figure for the previous year being £162,700,000.

With conditions remaining unfavourable a return to development is not anticipated; it is now the Group's intention to concentrate on the revitalisation of properties held for development pending clarification of the Industry's long-term future.

The Board plan to finance, in the main, the cost of the development programme from the sale of selective investment properties. Sales during the period amount to £9,857,000 after gains tax and further sales, the terms of which have been agreed, amount to £80m subject to gains tax.

Many of the properties held for development have been held for a number of years and are included in the Accounts at their historic cost not at values occasioned by recent purchases or based on recent valuations. In present market conditions the value of development and revitalised properties on completion will exceed their cost and the rentals to be attained should satisfactorily increase revenue earning capacity of the Group. The directors are confident that an increase in distribution by the present maximum permitted rate, subject to unforeseen circumstances, can be maintained for the current year.

The above are salient features of the Report of the Directors for the year ended 31st March 1975. If you would like a copy of the Report and Accounts, please write to the Secretary.

**THE LAND SECURITIES INVESTMENT TRUST LIMITED**  
Devonshire House, Piccadilly, London W1X 6BT

## Shareholders of Vantona Limited

Your company's future is to be decided shortly. Please attend next Wednesday's AGM.

Do not send proxies.

BASIL GLASS  
President

## INTERIM STATEMENT

### BRAID GROUP LIMITED

#### Interim results at a glance

	1975	1974	1973
	Half year	Half year	Year
Turnover	£'000	£'000	£'000
	7,703	6,212	13,337
Profit before tax	380	208	342
Ordinary dividend	21	20	63

It is always difficult to forecast the profit for the year but we have a good range of vehicles in cars, vans and trucks to sell and service and our liquid resources are adequate to sustain our pattern of trading. The introduction of the new Vauxhall Chevette opens up a completely new sector of the total car market. I am, therefore, quietly confident that, subject to there being no shortage of vehicles, the profits for the second half year should be satisfactory.

However, we are subject to the restrictions of the Price Code. The gross profit percentages earned within the Group's distribution activities are, at the end of March 1975, in excess of the levels permitted by the Price Code. The Directors are taking steps to correct the situation. On the basis of projected turnover for the year ending 30th September, 1975 and having regard to the present Price Code regulations it is not expected that the profit permitted by the terms of the Price Code will exceed £465,000 before taxation for the full year.

W. A. GREGSON, Chairman

Directors declare an interim dividend of .3575p (.336p) per share which, together with the associated tax credit, represents .55p (.5p) per share.

## PEACHEY PROPERTY CORPORATION LIMITED

The following are extracts from the Statement of the Chairman, Mr E. M. Miller, JP

Your Board considered that before submitting the accounts for the year to the 24th June, 1975, it was necessary, in the light of the unprecedented circumstances in the property market last year, to have at least a clear indication of the valuation of the Group's assets and also reliable information relating to overseas interests, the latter held with partners. Sufficient information is now to hand to enable the accounts to be completed. I apologise for the long delay in communicating with members and steps have now been taken to ensure that no such delay occurs in the future.

In evaluating the sizeable fall in overall profits, mention must first be made of the off-balance sheet fact that interest rates on bank borrowings for the period under review escalated to an extent that none of us anticipated would continue for the length of time that they have.

The increase in net rental income was limited to approximately 7% because of the rent freeze imposed by the then Government.

The profits amounted to £1,197,000 compared with £2,164,000 in the previous year. Before losses on the portfolio of quoted securities shown in the balance sheet at the 24th June 1975, the profit would have been £1,269,000. I hope that it will be regarded as a prudent step to have disposed of the portfolio even though a loss of £603,000 was incurred. This is a fraction of the loss which would have been suffered if the decision had not been made at that time. I would draw your attention to the fact that the realisation of these shares improved the Group's liquidity and therefore played a part in ensuring the high borrowing costs already referred to.

We are at the present time developing an office block and shops opposite Euston Station in London consisting of 405,000 sq. ft. of which approximately 100,000 sq. ft. is pre-let to a first class tenant at a rent to be increased to take into account the current market value at the time of occupation. We have recently instructed our professionals to let the remainder on similar terms.

The overseas development projects are proceeding satisfactorily. The office building in Lyon, France, mentioned in the report with the 1972 accounts has recently been completed and occupants to date have been obtained for 50% of the building. We are optimistic as to the balance being dealt with in the very near future.

In a more general context I feel that it is essential that members should be told exactly where we stand so that they can measure the risks that we may be carrying and measure those risks against what I consider to be the strength of your Group.

The Company during the past months has employed two eminent firms of Surveyors and Valuers to carry out a valuation of the portfolio of the Group's property (with the exception of certain development projects). In view of the time it was taking the Valuers were instructed to value as at the 24th March, 1975; the final valuations are not as yet to hand and are therefore not included in the Directors' Report. However, from the valuations received to date I feel that I can indicate that my earlier reference to the strength of your Group is soundly based in view of its property assets, there being no substantial reduction from the amount of the valuations previously reported and which were in the main made as at 24th June, 1972.

One of the main symptoms of the economic plight of the Country, of which we are all aware, is spiralling inflation. Practically every economist has said that the best hedge against inflation is bricks and mortar; these we have.

Having regard to the overall situation the Board recommends the payment of a dividend of 10p on the ordinary shares. As the Board have been paid out of reserves but in all the circumstances the Board considers that this would not be justified.

On a stimulating note I would like to take this opportunity of welcoming to the Board Mr Donald Collett, CBE, whose vast experience will be a most valuable contribution to your Company.

	1974	1973
Total Share Capital and Reserves	£'000	£'000
	16,114	13,956
Income	3,494	4,173
Pre-tax Profit	636	709
Profit after Taxation	236	1,373

The dividend for the year, with the related tax credits, is equivalent to 1.538p (1973-14.175p).

The annual general meeting of the company will be held on 15th August, 1975. Copies of the Report and Accounts will be sent to the Secretary, Executive Office, Park View, Marble Arch, London W12 2QJ.



BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Land Securities restructures its debt

Great was the wrath and indignation in the City yesterday over the Land Securities' rights issue. Not that many people were grumbling at the terms per se, for the coupon is reasonable and the conversion date and price attractive. What had the market agitated was, first, the fact that any property company should be making a rights at all, with the probable obsequies over the English Property issue yet to be sung; and secondly, and more importantly, that Land Securities' itself, which has over the past two years been buying in its convertibles at a formidable rate, should thus dramatically perform a turnaround.

The argument from Landsit, which hinges on the elimination of short-term borrowings of £72m at the last balance sheet date—has something to recommend it, particularly in the context of a possible increase in United Kingdom interest rates. Of the property sales worth £80m which the terms had been agreed at the balance sheet date, some £47m have been completed, but completion of the lot still leaves the group with a tax bill for capital gains and £60m in ongoing capital commitments. And in the context of a net asset backing at end-March of 234p, the group reckons a dilution on conversion of under 4p is a small price to pay for clearing most of its remaining short-term borrowings off the balance sheet.

The argument would, of course, carry a great deal more weight had not Land Securities been borrowing to finance convertible repurchases to a par value of almost £25m over the past two years. Given the asset-backed nature of last year's £350m write-off, the argument that the potential dilution on conversion then was a great deal more serious than it is now, carries some weight. But as against that has to be set the fact that Landsit spent some £25m last year in buying in stocks at a price which, while unknown, is likely to have implied a yield of under 5 per cent; and the group is replacing them with £21m-worth of a 10 per cent coupon. The balance sheet may look spruce, but the short-term implications for cash flow are poor.

Longer-term there are some interesting implications for the sector as a whole in the fact that a property company is prepared to fund at 10 per cent assets which—in the absence of any precise grounds for the valuation which Messrs Knight, Frank and Rutley made in March—one must assume to be yielding around 7½ per cent. And that the group is prepared to contemplate the exercise at 175p of rights to assets which, on that valuation, are worth 234p.

Plessey

### Assessing the trend

Just as the change in year end results is difficult to be particularly precise about trends at the time of Plessey's January-March figures, the task is certainly no easier when looking at the figures for the quarter to end-June. Against the same quarter of last year—the comparable figures are adjusted downwards by the £80,000 already carried back to the January-March quarter of 1974—the pre-tax total shows a fall of almost a fifth to £10.2m, while earnings, after higher minorities, work out just over a quarter lower.

The Plessey line, however, is that it is more meaningful to compare the latest quarter figures with the quarter immediately preceding. On this basis earnings are down by less



Sir John Clark, chairman of Plessey: lower interest charges.

than 2 per cent, while the pre-tax total works out some 4 per cent higher. To the extent that Plessey offers this as a more useful guide to the underlying trend in the business, it obviously looks encouraging—albeit that the pre-tax rise is due exclusively to lower interest charges that at least partly reflect a quarter that is traditionally among the best in cash flow terms.

That said, Plessey has already made it clear that borrowings should be well contained this year, a factor that should be further helped by any slackening in the domestic inflation rate. Slackening inflation could, moreover, leave some useful scope when Plessey comes to assess its longer-term workload at the year end. So, with the improving trend in order books in last year's more troubled areas being maintained, the outlook for the full year should be none too bad, even if the flat trend in the latest turnover figures suggests that the improving order position may yet take some months to work through to a higher level of output.

1st Quarter: 1975-76 (1974-75)  
Capitalization £124m  
Sales £112m (£110m)  
Pre-tax profits £10.2m (£12.6m)

### Inchcape Defensive merits

Inchcape had warned that the second half of this year, but the first to leave the full year "not dissimilar" to the year before. But if it needs a certain amount of poetic licence to regard a £2m shortfall (taking in a drop from £17.5m to £10.5m) as meeting that forecast, the point is largely academic anyway, since the present half is already showing signs of recovery.

The real upturn, admittedly, is not likely to occur until the second half of this year, but the implication is that Inchcape's broad, geographical spread of interests has succeeded in limiting the present cyclical downswing to only one year. And even then the downturn has been softened to the extent that certain areas have remained buoyant—most notably the Middle East and the United Kingdom, where Mann Egerton managed the remarkable feat of more than doubling its profits to £2.9m, and Gray & Fitzhugh stayed comfortably profitable.

Much will clearly depend upon the pace of economic revival worldwide as far as the key general merchandising side is concerned—51 per cent of

profits last year. But there should also be something to come from loss elimination on the Australian housebuilding business, and with 77 per cent of earnings arising abroad, Inchcape can hardly be a loser on currency exchange rates, an item which it treats as revenue. At 34p the shares sell at just over 10 times earnings and yield a bare 3 per cent, but are nonetheless less attractive for being dear.

Final: 1974-75 (1973-74)  
Capitalization £119m  
Sales £736m (£534m)  
Pre-tax profits £28.1m (£30.1m)  
Earnings per share 32.9p (41.7p)  
Dividend gross 10.5p (9.55p)

Gestetner

### The recession bites

There are few real surprises in the Gestetner interim figures, bearing out as they do the decline in profitability forecast at the time of the rights issue at the end of April. Perhaps the most trenchant point is the decline in trading margins from 12.1 to 9.0 per cent, which, allied to a 22 per cent increase in group turnover (excluding Rex Rotary), indicates some sluggish volume trends. Apart from a few isolated but unspiced markets, which remain firm, trading world-wide is still awaiting an upturn.

Gestetner has traditionally owed its high rating to its defensive qualities, but a 6 per cent fall in trading profits so far this year could leave that kind of status open to doubt, especially when a similar fall seems likely for the remainder of the year. At 26p, the shares are selling at around nine times prospective earnings, a not unreasonable rating in itself. But the yield on the latest 12 months' declarations is only 3.7 per cent. The shares could well be available cheaper at a later stage.

Interim: 1974/75 (1973/74)  
Capitalization £71.1m  
Sales £90.1m (£68.5m)  
Pre-tax profits £8.40m (£8.87m)  
Dividend gross 2.42p (2.15p)

West Coast &amp; Texas

### The recovery stage

Against an improvement on Wall Street of something over 40 per cent in the first half of this year, West Coast and Texas Regional Investment Trust has almost doubled its net assets to £2m, which speaks volumes for the gearing implicit in this type of vehicle in a rising market. All this, moreover, when the investment strategy was becoming more conservative in style than hitherto, with some of the high-flying regional being weeded out in favour of less spectacular blue chips and medium-sized companies.

The key, of course, is the dollar premium. Last year, when Wall Street was tumbling, the back-to-back loans had to be topped up with premium currency to maintain the 115 per cent value, the effect being to intensify the slump in asset values. This year the reverse has been the case, the rise in share prices creating surplus premium currency. Happy though this effect is in the good times, however, West Coast and Texas has been moving towards a more even balance between the proportion of its portfolio funded by dollar loans and the proportion funded direct through the premium. Mercifully, it never borrowed in non-dollar currency to finance its American investments.

At this stage the boards are going out to discuss their strategies with the Confederation of British Industry, the Trades Union Congress and other organizations. Their aim, Sir Ieuan Maddock, Dof Chief Scientist, says, is "to initiate an expanding dialogue between the requirements boards and industry so that policy is ultimately based on a wide and interested body of comment and advice."

In essence, the job of the requirements boards boils down to identifying those areas where R & D is worthwhile and—equally importantly—where it is not. To do this effectively means taking a long-term view, and including factors other than R & D which also will help to shape the future of the particular industry.

At the same time as they are planning for the long-term future of the industry, the boards must also deal with short-term problems; if these are not solved, there may not be any long-term future.

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The commission also discussed whether their powers of supervision should include the unofficial over-the-counter markets, in which—thanks to an unexpected court decision two months ago—recognized stockbrokers are not allowed to operate, and about the information which the commission will require from companies.

Next month, for example, companies with bourse quotations

housing concern, has forecast that without a recovery in demand a further 200,000 to 250,000 workers will have to leave the industry by next April.

Herr Helmut Geiger, the president of the West German Builders' Association, said in a recent magazine interview that unless an aid programme is decided now several thousand companies will go to the wall. In the first quarter of this year the number of insolvent companies in the building industry rose by almost 50 per cent to 358 while in April and May a further 212 building firms collapsed, a 30 per cent increase compared with the same two months of 1974.

Bankers such as Herr Geiger now fear that fundamentally sound companies will be caught up in the construction industry's general misery. Particularly at risk are medium-sized firms employing between 50 and 500 workers. Smaller concerns, it is argued, can generally slim down to a man and a boy type of operation if necessary, while the larger construction firms such as Hochtief AG of Essen are partly offsetting the slump in domestic orders by winning large contracts abroad especially in the Opec countries.

Little wonder, therefore, that Germany's state aid, the president of the Building Industry Association has, for example, called for a DM10,000m (£1,818m) programme of public works while Herr Geiger has advocated government subsidies for people modernizing their homes

during the coming winter. At present government departments in Bonn are drawing up plans which are believed to centre on improving old housing and rebuilding government-subsidized homes. However, the figures so far suggested are in the order of DM4,000m to DM5,000m or about half the sum demanded by the building industry.

The construction industry's plight is not simply a consequence of the present worldwide recession, although the end of the era of strong economic growth in West Germany has contributed to the fall in new office and factory building. The German building industry was moving into trouble even before the Opec price rises at the end of 1973. Today's problems can be largely traced back to an exaggerated speculative boom in the early 1970s.

Convinced that bricks and mortar would be an eternal hedge against inflation and that houses and flats would be in constant demand, West Germany's builders put up a record 714,200 new homes in 1973, about half were built on a speculative basis without firm customers.

However, expectations of a constant rise in land prices and rents and therefore profits from housing proved to be false. In 1973 the German government in its counter-inflation programme moved decisively against bricks and mortar inflation by suspending tax rebates for house buyers while the West German Federal Bank added a crippling blow

by driving interest rates up to unprecedented levels.

But in retrospect it is clear that the industry was also grossly oversupplying the market. Today Germany has more homes than private households. The population is growing more slowly than forecast at the end of the 1960s. Whereas earlier estimates put Germany's new home requirement at 600,000 a year, the figure has now been revised downwards to between 400,000 and 450,000. In view of the large overhang of empty flats and houses on the market, the German building industry is still producing too many homes.

Last year it was just over 600,000 units and this year completions are expected to total between 430,000 and 500,000 units. To make matters worse many of the houses and flats coming on to the market are in the luxury class and cannot be readily converted into state subsidized housing.

The economic waste represented by the overhang of unused housing is enormous. As a result of the speculative boom, contractors and builders are carrying an interest burden estimated at DM4,000m to DM6,000m a year while the total value of the unoccupied flats and houses has been put at between DM33,000m to DM40,000m.

The continuing fall in production and the consequent decline in capacity utilization has greatly added to the cost burden of those firms that remain in business. Commerzbank estimated in a recent study that the effective cost

burden of the building industry this year would rise by around 10 per cent. Given the situation of the market, it is doubtful whether the industry will be able to pass on these costs to the consumer.

Much of the plant bought in the heady days of the early 1970s is now idle. Average plant utilization last year was only 54 per cent against 66 per cent in 1971 and 1972 and 63 per cent in the boom year of 1973.

The problems of the building industry have naturally enough spilled over to other sectors. The brick, quarry and gravel industry for example is now expecting a 10 per cent fall in production this year after a similar decline in 1974. The cement industry cut back output by 13 per cent last year and by a further 20 per cent in the first quarter of this year.

One of the growing political issues in West Germany at the moment is whether the state should play a part in guiding corporate investment instead of merely leaving investment and planning decisions to market forces. It is an emotive question and the advocates of "Investitionslenkung" are too young socialists or left-wing extremists. However the recent history of the German construction industry and its present predicament perhaps point to the limitations of a free market system at a time when steady economic growth has given way to recessions.

Peter Norman

## Industry boards start to examine the needs of research

For their respective industries, the boards are trying to assess, such factors as the industry's relative importance on the national scene; its performance relative to that of its overseas competitors; and its detailed structure. Though individual strategies will vary, there are a number of general principles which apply.

Government-funded R & D, it is now axiomatic, must not be an end in itself, but must bring ultimate benefits (whether quantifiable or not). Development of a particular expertise is not in itself a justifiable objective.

Improving the efficiency and competitiveness of British industry is a general objective, an important aspect of which is to improve the country's balance of payments.

"Technology transfer" is important. This means ensuring that relevant technology (whether newly researched or already available) is actually applied in industry.

In translating these broad principles into a working method of assessment, one of the boards uses the following criteria:

Relevance. Does the project meet a need for which the board is a proxy customer? Necessity. Could the same objective be achieved by other means?

Novelty. Are the results already available elsewhere? Credibility. Is the R & D clearly specified and the programme realistic?

Exploitability. Do the necessary conditions exist for the R & D results to be applied in industry?

Cost-effectiveness. Does the return to the economy justify the cost of the project? Dependence on support. Without government support, would the work not be done privately?

Competitiveness. Does the outcome provide a net benefit to the United Kingdom? Type of research. Is the work truly application-oriented?

In their individual reports, the boards outline their progress to date. The Chief Scientist's board has found that, in a number of industries, where the scope for technological change is substantial, the necessary infrastructure is inadequate.

As an example, the garment manufacturing industry is labour intensive and its net output per head is low. Imports of clothing are increasing and, while mechanization could improve the industry's prospects, its capital investment performance is poor and it employs relatively few trained engineers, scientists and managers.

In the shoe industry, now under severe pressure from imports, there seems to be scope for a substantial upgrading in shoe-making technology and productivity.

Appropriate research is under way. Selection of the right contractor to carry out the necessary R & D is clearly important. Much research has traditionally been supported by Government at its own research establishments and the research associations, but the Chief Scientist's board is now questioning "whether these always represent the most effective way by which, for instance, industrial innovation can be supported."

This point is echoed by the Chemical Minerals board, which has expressed concern "at the lack of marketing expertise on the part of government establishments and their failure to back promising developments with the

resources needed for successful exploitation". The Computer-Aided Design Centre at Cambridge, the board says, is one such establishment.

The same board has identified the need for R & D work in three areas: the provision of basic data, the exploration of new technologies and the improvement of existing technologies. But the balance is wrong, the resources being devoted to the first of these areas is excessive, the board says.

The Engineering Materials board says that much existing materials R & D information "does not appear to have been adequately explored or exploited by industry".

In industry in general, the Engineering Materials board says, materials tend to be selected on the basis of minimum cost for minimum acceptable performance. More effective use of new or existing materials might lead to overall economies in manufacture and, indeed, to product improvement through more efficient design or greater durability.

The Mechanical Engineering and Machine Tools board is concentrating on finding the answers to problems posed by the scarcity of qualified manpower in manufacturing, the increased cost and scarcity of raw materials, energy conservation, noise control and the manufacturing process as a whole. The problem of technology transfer is particularly severe, the board says.

Preliminary studies of the technology of nuclear mer-

chant ships have been proposed by the Ship and Marine Technology Board, whose other projects have included the development of an offshore test structure to be located in Christchurch Bay for the measurement of environmental forces.

(This project has now been transferred to the Offshore Energy Technology Board. In the article on that board in last Friday's issue, this project was incorrectly associated with the National Data Buoy, another Ship and Marine programme which is intended to provide basic oceanographic information.)

As indicated, the projects supported by the requirements boards are being carried out in a variety of locations, or government establishments, research associations, and in industry and universities.

As an example, the Mechanical Engineering board is handling projects at the National Engineering Laboratory, the Computer-Aided Design Centre, the Atomic Energy Authority, right of the research associations and by extra-mural contracts.

These extra-mural contracts include a feasibility study of a new weaving loom (Cambridge Consultants), and projects on wave power (Edinburgh University), the social aspects of industrial technologies (Salford University), and die, mould and pattern making (Wolfson Cambridge Industrial Unit).

Kenneth Owen

# Monk

Extracts from the statement of the Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. F. H. Sullivan.

The trading results at £597,994 (1974 £1,720,330) for the year ended 28th February last are most disappointing, more particularly as they follow a period of seven years of steady growth and consolidation. The basic reason for this reversal is the impact of unprecedented increases in costs incurred in carrying out contracts which were secured in the early months of 1973 on a firm price basis. The figures must not be taken as an indication that your Company is unable to undertake construction work at least as profitably as in the past.

Government declines to recognise changed conditions

In good faith, companies engaged in the Construction Industry prepared tenders for public sector works on a firm price basis at rates calculated in accordance with the provisions of the counter inflation legislation as it then existed.

Radical changes in Government policy during the currency of these contracts, particularly in relation to the excessive increases in prices prescribed by the Government for steel and energy led to cost increases of a magnitude which could not have been foreseen in the latter part of 1972 and the early part of 1973, when these firm price tenders were submitted.

Representations for fair treatment in light of changing circumstances, made on behalf of the industry, have been rebuffed by the Government.

Extent of irrecoverable price increases

To provide guidance as to the extent of the price increases, I would say that on Government and Public Authority firm price contracts awarded during the first six months of 1973, the following are the price increases which we consider are directly attributable to the circumstances outlined:

Steel Reinforcement	£450,000
Other Material	£1,300,000
Fuel	£700,000
Threshold Payments	£170,000

Additionally, substantial increases in cost have been incurred, as a result of the failure of two major Sub-Contractors each of whose financial position was undermined by inflationary trends during the currency of the contracts.

Sound financial base

I am pleased to say that despite the experience of this past year, your Company's financial base is sound, mainly as a result of pursuing a realistic and sensible policy in past years.

The work of the Group has generally followed the pattern of recent years, and profit margins have been maintained on work other than that undertaken on a firm price basis.

Attention has been given to new techniques and materials, an example being the introduction to this country by your Company of the system of "reinforced earth embankment construction."

Overseas

I can now report that the indigenous Nigerian subsidiary, Petra-Monk Engineering and Contracting Co. Ltd., is now operating and has been successful in being awarded by the Nigerian Ministry of Works and Housing the contract for the reconstruction of the Ikorodu Road from Lagos International Airport, valued at some £19m.

Re-assessing our development

The changing economic outlook both for the nation as a whole and the Construction Industry in particular, calls for a re-assessment of your Company's projected development. Potential work loads in the U.K. have made it necessary to effect certain changes in organisation to reduce and to continue reducing overhead costs. Additional spheres of activity both at home and abroad are being sought to provide profitable outlets for the use of your Company's resources.

## A. Monk & Company Limited

CIVIL ENGINEERING, BUILDING & REINFORCED CONCRETE CONTRACTORS

Head Office: Warrington. Offices also at: London Aldershot Boston Spa Middlesbrough Rugby Stamford Taunton

## Business Diary: Gold in them thar mills • Pet subject

Britain's highest paid stire industry chief, Sir Monty Finniston, who has to rub along on a "frozen" £28,392 a year when Lord Boyle says it should be £40,000, seems to be doing his best for the British Steel Corporation's senior employees.

Last year, there were 82 non-board executives earning more than £10,000, with 28 of them earning between £12,500 and £22,500, and another three drawing up to £25,000 (pretty close to the chairman's Whitehall-controlled chit).

Now the board has added another 72 people to its £10,000-plus executives, bringing the total to 154. Of these, 90 are paid between £10,000 and £12,500 (last year there were 40). Another 35 will this year receive up to £15,000 while 14 have been put on the £15,000 to £17,500 bracket and seven in the £17,500 to £20,000 range.

These following the arithmetic will spot that this leaves eight to go. Four, and not last year's two, are now on £20,000 to £22,500. Another three receive between £22,500 and £25,000, which leaves one. He is worth up to £27,500 (even closer to the chairman's chit).

With a £5m-a-week loss to tackle, the better paid top management team is examining ways to beat the crisis. Yesterday, Sir Monty told BSC employees in the staff newspaper that the corporation was "having to borrow massive sums of money to pay the wages bill".

But there can be no boom even though the Government has just put up the borrowing ceiling to £2,000m. In the case of state industries, the £6-a-week pay rise restriction has been tightened by telling them they

cannot borrow to finance increases—breaching that maximum it says is not a norm.

### Men of steel

The reference to the Monopolies Commission on the supply of cat and dog foods must be particularly galling to Michael Vernon, chairman and chief executive of Spillers.

Quite apart from anything that the commission may do to shake up the pet food industry, it will cost Spillers a packet to prepare its case. And that is bad news, since it will make the second nibble the commission has had. Another reference already under review is on the supply of wheat flour and bread.

Only two months ago Vernon was looking forward to all sorts of nice things on the pet food front. The company's share of the market had increased in 1974, he reported. A new tuned dog food was voted "most successful product of the year," and there was a joint venture into Europe with Unilever.

The reference to the commission was made by John Methven, Director-General of the Office of Fair Trading, who named Spillers as one of the four main United Kingdom suppliers of cat and dog foods. The others are Pedigree Petfoods, Quaker Oats and Carnation Foods, all subsidiaries of American companies.

Neither Vernon nor his opposite numbers can take much cheer from Methven's statement that reference to the commission is "a neutral act", and not implying either the existence of a monopoly (where a company accounts for more than 25 per

cent of supply), or of actions contrary to the public interest. While the commission has yet to report on any of the five references made to it by the OFT in its first 18 months, references are rarely made unless the ground has been thoroughly cased beforehand.

Turner and Newall, which this week agreed to end certain agreements with other asbestos companies, probably emerged from the report on asbestos (published two and a half years ago) with as few bruises as anybody.

Yet apart from whatever effect these undertakings may have on profits, chairman and CBI president, Ralph Bateman, said in 1972 that the prepara-

tion of the case had cost £200,000.

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Next month, for example, companies with bourse quotations

to have to declare any cross shareholdings.

### Eating out

With the warm spell, the picnic basketmakers are thriving. Joe Pinch, sales director of Breston, makers of picnic baskets and cases, says that Harrods, its biggest London customer, sold out a month ago.

At the other end of the market, the rising price of eating out is persuading more people to take their food with them when they are going on a trip. Pinch adds that Breston's sets are all that cheap, ranging between £15 and £200.

Pinch's company which is part of the Harris and Sheldon leisure goods group, makes about 100,000 picnic sets a year, of which about 15,000 find their



## FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

## Wall Street

New York, July 24.—Stocks in the New York stock exchange closed mixed today with Dow Jones industrial average rising 3.50 to 840.27.

However, the number of issues declined to 1,070 from 1,170, and the volume of trading fell to 20,550,000 shares, compared with 20,150,000 shares.

Brokers said the industrial average was depressed largely by the broad-based decline in the United States and a jump in the market index of inflation.

General Products gained 11 to 20. The company reported higher second quarter earnings.

Phelps Dodge was off 21 to 35. The company reported lower second quarter earnings.

Anchor Hocking was one of the most active issues on the Big Board, slipping 1 to 21.

## Silver closed 8.10c up

New York, July 24.—COMEX SILVER futures closed 8.10c up, 8.10c, after a day of mixed trading.

Prices rose from 8.00c to 8.10c, but fell to 8.05c, then rose to 8.10c.

COMEX GOLD futures closed 160.00, 160.00, after a day of mixed trading.

Prices rose from 159.00 to 160.00, but fell to 159.50, then rose to 160.00.

COMEX OIL futures closed 12.00, 12.00, after a day of mixed trading.

Prices rose from 11.90 to 12.00, but fell to 11.95, then rose to 12.00.

COMEX COTTON futures closed 40.00, 40.00, after a day of mixed trading.

Prices rose from 39.50 to 40.00, but fell to 39.75, then rose to 40.00.

COMEX WHEAT futures closed 1.00, 1.00, after a day of mixed trading.

Prices rose from 0.95 to 1.00, but fell to 0.97, then rose to 1.00.

COMEX CORN futures closed 1.00, 1.00, after a day of mixed trading.

Prices rose from 0.95 to 1.00, but fell to 0.97, then rose to 1.00.

COMEX SOYBEAN futures closed 1.00, 1.00, after a day of mixed trading.

Prices rose from 0.95 to 1.00, but fell to 0.97, then rose to 1.00.

COMEX RICE futures closed 1.00, 1.00, after a day of mixed trading.

Prices rose from 0.95 to 1.00, but fell to 0.97, then rose to 1.00.

COMEX SUGAR futures closed 1.00, 1.00, after a day of mixed trading.

Prices rose from 0.95 to 1.00, but fell to 0.97, then rose to 1.00.

COMEX CATTLE futures closed 1.00, 1.00, after a day of mixed trading.

Prices rose from 0.95 to 1.00, but fell to 0.97, then rose to 1.00.

COMEX PORK futures closed 1.00, 1.00, after a day of mixed trading.

Prices rose from 0.95 to 1.00, but fell to 0.97, then rose to 1.00.

COMEX LARD futures closed 1.00, 1.00, after a day of mixed trading.

Prices rose from 0.95 to 1.00, but fell to 0.97, then rose to 1.00.

COMEX HOGS futures closed 1.00, 1.00, after a day of mixed trading.

Prices rose from 0.95 to 1.00, but fell to 0.97, then rose to 1.00.

COMEX BEEF futures closed 1.00, 1.00, after a day of mixed trading.

Prices rose from 0.95 to 1.00, but fell to 0.97, then rose to 1.00.

COMEX BUTTER futures closed 1.00, 1.00, after a day of mixed trading.

Prices rose from 0.95 to 1.00, but fell to 0.97, then rose to 1.00.

COMEX EGGS futures closed 1.00, 1.00, after a day of mixed trading.

Prices rose from 0.95 to 1.00, but fell to 0.97, then rose to 1.00.

## Tough going for Ward in strike-hit year

By Tony May

Hard times continue at Ward & Goldstone, the Salford-based maker of insulated wires and cables, electrical and plastic accessories.

In the year to last March pre-tax profits went down 19 per cent to £236m—reflecting a 25 per cent drop in second-half profits to £151m, and one of 7 per cent to £853,000 in the first six months.

Sales figures for the full year are not disclosed, but there was a first half profit drop despite a 44 per cent rise in sales to £20.08m.

Shareholders will receive a payment of 6.75p, against 6.18p, even though retained profits fell from £365,500 to £739,000.

Bank interest rose from £418,000 to £752,500 while £17,000 was spent on the hire of machinery, compared with £72,000.

Strong bid rumours pushed up the shares of Stewarson, the building materials group, 13p to 173p. Mr G. R. F. Tompkins, head of Green Shield Stamps, has more than 85 per cent of the equity.

sentiment was noticeably stronger than on Wednesday. Dr Arthur Burns's evidence to a Congressional committee that the latest Federal Reserve moves are intended to hold back the money supply and not to push up interest rates, except temporarily, helped the market a little in the afternoon.

"Shorts" eased back by 1 point in the morning on light selling, after opening at overnight levels. But in the afternoon prices firmed and most stocks showed a net loss on the

day of only 1 or 2 points. Dealers referred to some switching into "longs".

"Longs" were also up to 1 point down at one stage, but eventually showed small net gains of 1 point. Dealers said that trading conditions were quiet.

Losses spread over nearly all sections of the equity market but properties were particularly badly hit by a combination of a 22m convertible rights issue from Land Securities and the interest rate fears.

The company itself lost 11p to end at 148p, while Great Portland, at 178p, Basemere 169p, Hammerson ordinary and "A" 325p and English Property 35p lost 18p, 7p, 15p and 6p respectively. Even higher profits could not stop New London easing 5p to 160p.

Dutch selling ahead of next month's quarterly was an added factor affecting Unilever and the share closed at less than 18p down to 325p. Others badly hit were Reed International (200p) down 7p, and Beccams, which shed 4p to 275p.

But Lord Kerton's encouraging remarks on Wednesday made for a firmer tone in Courtlaids—off a penny to 94p.

Elsewhere in financials, insurances joined in the general decline with Royal losing 10p to 260p and Commercial Union 4p to 140p. There was a similar picture in stores. Boots lost 5p to 187p, GUS "A" 3p to 150p and Marks & Spencer also 3p, to 94p.

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## Stock markets Equities stay nervous ahead of MLR decision

There was another day of nervous selling on the London stock market yesterday. The growing conviction that the minimum lending rate will go up today—possibly by as much as a full point—led to switching out of the leading industrial shares and some prices, notably Unilever, fell by double-figure amounts.

"Bear closing" made for a minor rally at the end of the day but the depressing effect of unemployment figures over the one million mark stifled progress and the FT Index was still 5.1 points down, to 283.4, at the closing calculation. The day's low of 281.7 was reached at 1 p.m.

Initially gilts rallied well, especially at the longer end, but by the end most gains had been halved. "Shorts" made little headway.

The better tone at the longer end was again the main feature in the gilt-edged market. Unleashed at the Bank of England's present intentions receded and

day of only 1 or 2 points. Dealers referred to some switching into "longs".

"Longs" were also up to 1 point down at one stage, but eventually showed small net gains of 1 point. Dealers said that trading conditions were quiet.

Losses spread over nearly all sections of the equity market but properties were particularly badly hit by a combination of a 22m convertible rights issue from Land Securities and the interest rate fears.

The company itself lost 11p to end at 148p, while Great Portland, at 178p, Basemere 169p, Hammerson ordinary and "A" 325p and English Property 35p lost 18p, 7p, 15p and 6p respectively. Even higher profits could not stop New London easing 5p to 160p.

Dutch selling ahead of next month's quarterly was an added factor affecting Unilever and the share closed at less than 18p down to 325p. Others badly hit were Reed International (200p) down 7p, and Beccams, which shed 4p to 275p.

But Lord Kerton's encouraging remarks on Wednesday made for a firmer tone in Courtlaids—off a penny to 94p.

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## Latest dividends

Company (and par value)	Ord	Year ago	Year ago	Prev year
Beaumont Properties (25p) Int	1.17	1.17	30/9	2.68
Brit Aust Inv Tst (25p) Int	0.18	0.18	28/8	0.69
Brit Bounton (10p) Int	5.36	5.36	26/9	9.86
Brit Bounton (10p) Int	1.4	1.4	30/9	4.55
Costed Metals (10p) Fin	2.01	2.01	7/6	2.01
Crossroads Tst (25p) Int	1.57	1.57	14/4	1.57
Gesteiner (25p) Int	3.81	3.81	7/10	6.93
Int Nickel (10p) Fin	35	35	3/9	160
Maple Macwoods (20p) Fin	1.47	1.47	Nil	2.17
MTE (10p) Fin	1.12	1.12	1/10	1.66
Newcastle (25p) Fin	2.67	2.67	4/8	4.50
Ward & Goldstone (25p) Fin	3.14	3.14	—	4.45
Western Board Mills (10p) Int	1.86	1.86	23/9	2.



## MARKET REPORTS

## Foreign Exchange

Sterling rose by just 5 points against the dollar yesterday, to close at \$2.00, but it continued to advance more strongly against Continental currencies. Its floating devaluation, rate improved again, to 25.8 per cent on 25.9 per cent the previous evening. Gold rose by 95 cents an ounce, to \$165.25.

## Eurosyndicat

The Eurosyndicat index of European share prices was put provisionally at 137.61 on July 22 against 138.04 a week earlier.

## Bank Base Rates

Barclays Bank	91%
C. Hoare & Co.	91%
Lloyds Bank	91%
Midland Bank	91%
Nat Westminster	91%
Shearman Trust	111%
20th Century Bank	111%
Williams & Glyn's	91%

\* 7-day deposits on sums of £10,000 and over, 6% up to £25,000, 7% over £25,000, 7.5% over £50,000.

## M. J. H. NIGHTINGALE &amp; CO. LIMITED

62-63 Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8HP Tel: 01-638 8651

55	35	Armitage & Rhodes	40	—	3.0	7.5	4.5
126	90	Henry Sykes	123	+1	4.9	4.0	8.2
61	29	Twinlock Ord	32	—	0.9	2.9	7.9
65	45	Twinlock 12% ULS	65	—	12.0	18.5	—
54	48	Unilock	54	+1	4.5	8.3	10.2

## Discount market

Although discount houses experienced a slightly less difficult day yesterday, they still required assistance on a very large scale from the authorities before they were able to rule off their books at the end of the session. Rates, which had touched 92 per cent, eased to the close and final balances were taken down to 8 per cent.

## Money Market

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

Overnight: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

3 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

6 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

12 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

18 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

24 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

30 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

36 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

42 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

48 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

54 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

60 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

66 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

72 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

78 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

84 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

90 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

96 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

102 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

108 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

114 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

120 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

126 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

132 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

138 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

144 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

150 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

156 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

162 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

168 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

174 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

180 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

186 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

192 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

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252 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

258 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

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270 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

276 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

282 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

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414 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

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474 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

480 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

486 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

492 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

498 months: 10% (unchanged 25/7/75)

## Commodities

## COPPER

Wire bars closed steady; cathodes were up. Afternoon: wire bars, 100-101; cathodes, 100-101.

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Afternoon: wire bars, 100-101; cathodes, 100-101.

## Eurobond prices

(midday indicators)

10% 1980-81: 100.00

10% 1981-82: 100.00

10% 1982-83: 100.00

10% 1983-84: 100.00

10% 1984-85: 100.00

10% 1985-86:



ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began July 14. Dealings End Today. 5 Contango Day, July 28. Settlement Day, Aug 1. 5 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

[illegible]









Typical example—Field Grove House, Bitton, between Bath and Bristol.

## Residential property

### Big rise in old houses up for sale

A sidelight on the state of the property market is shown by the increasing length of the quarterly list of historic buildings for sale compiled by the Historic Buildings Bureau. The bureau was formed in 1952 as an adjunct to the Historic Buildings Council, originally to find uses for unmarketable historic buildings. Seven years ago its activities were expanded to include all buildings listed as being of special architectural or historical interest.

Since the system is voluntary it cannot take account of all listed buildings in the market, and in any case to be on the list a property must have been in the hands of an estate agent for at least two months. But it does at least indicate the trend of the market in listed buildings. In July, 1973, the total number of properties in England listed was 46. By July last year the figure had reached 115, and the current list now published shows 184 properties.

They are not confined to the stately homes class. In the last year cover almost the whole range, although few are below £20,000, even if the odd one might come in as low as £5,500 or £6,000. Most lie between £20,000 and £50,000.

The growth of the list reflects the general state of the market and the choice most agents can find. Listed houses have probably been more affected than the rest of the market by over-inflated domestic costs. Ownership of such a house carries commitments in the way of repair and maintenance, and the houses are old. Even where a property may be eligible for a grant the owner may find himself unable to meet his share of the cost of necessary repairs. Heating is a problem with rising fuel costs.

Such factors damp the enthusiasm of buyers. Whether the recently introduced possibility of exempting an historic house from capital transfer tax when it is sold will give any boost to the market is still an open question. The concession is purely advisory. The Treasury says that, while any listed house might be eligible for exemption, each application would be considered on its merits by the Treasury and in consultation with the Secretary of State for the Environment, or the appropriate Secretaries of

State for Scotland and Wales. While it is probable that few difficulties would arise with the most highly graded houses, which are obviously of national importance, there are more than 200,000 listed buildings in England alone. Many may not be in the front rank but are none the less an important element in the fabric of our towns and villages and of the countryside. Where will the line be drawn? The Government's decision on exemption applies to transfers on death or after March 13 this year. No applications for exemption on these grounds have been received by the Inland Revenue so far.

The quarterly list of historic buildings for sale or to be let is obtainable free from the Historic Buildings Bureau, 25 Savile Row, London, W1P 2BT. Typical of the kind of lesser country house under discussion is Field Grove House, Bitton, between Bath and Bristol. A good Georgian property with a grade II listing, it has the well proportioned rooms of its period with such features as sash windows and plaster mouldings and cornices. There are two reception rooms, a library and three main and three secondary bedrooms. The property extends to about an acre and a half. Offers up to £70,000 are being asked through Bernard Horne and Partners, 100, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Another grade II building, but of a different kind, is Monks Mill, at Scrooby, on the banks of the Trent in Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire. The building covers a span of many centuries, and has medieval origins. In its

present form it is built partly of brick and partly of stone, with a pantile roof. It has been extensively restored since 1953, retaining many of the medieval features. There are three reception rooms, a main bedroom, bathroom and dressing room, suite, and two other bedrooms. Five acres of grounds are notable for extensive water gardens, including the original spring-fed mill pond and the mill stream. Offers of about £40,000 would be considered for private sale before an auction later in the summer. The agents are Jackson-Stops and Staff, of York.

Further up the price scale is Orsley Hall, about four miles from Grays, Essex, which has a grade II listing. The house is believed to have mid-seventeenth century origins, but the greater part was built in 1767. It is of brick construction with stone cornices and a number of round-headed windows. Accommodation includes four reception rooms, a study and six main and four secondary bedrooms, plus self-contained three-bedroom flat. The whole property runs to about 36 acres and includes an aircraft hangar and an airstrip. The property is being sold by Mr. Tony Morzan, a businessman and yachtsman, through Strutt and Parker. Offers of about £150,000 are being asked, or it might be sold via auction.

Less grand but very traditional is The Old Manor House, at Broad Oak, near Kye, in East Sussex. With a grade II listing, it is believed originally to have been a small yeoman's hall dating from the late fifteenth or early sixteenth century. Improvements made over the years include the big central brick chimney and the gate in the living room, which were probably added in Elizabethan times. The property has been a farmhouse, cottages, and school, but has been a private residence for many years. Accommodation consists of two reception rooms, four bedrooms on the first floor, and, unusually for this kind of building, a further two bedrooms on the upper floor. A feature of the upper floor is a fine old kitchen. The garden extends to nearly two acres. Offers over £25,000 are being asked through G. H. Northam, East Sussex.

Gerald Ely

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1000 sq. ft. new house, South Hants. 1000 sq. ft. master bedroom, dressing area, bath, two bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, sun room, terrace, garden, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Price £120,000. Tel. 01424 2211.

##### WILTSHIRE

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1000 sq. ft. new house, South Hants. 1000 sq. ft. master bedroom, dressing area, bath, two bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, sun room, terrace, garden, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Price £120,000. Tel. 01424 2211.

##### SOMERSET BRIDGWATER

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##### TOWN HOUSE, BOURNE, Lincs.

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1000 sq. ft. new house, South Hants. 1000 sq. ft. master bedroom, dressing area, bath, two bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, sun room, terrace, garden, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Price £120,000. Tel. 01424 2211.

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##### 500 FT UP HASELHURST

1000 sq. ft. new house, South Hants. 1000 sq. ft. master bedroom, dressing area, bath, two bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, sun room, terrace, garden, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Price £120,000. Tel. 01424 2211.

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1000 sq. ft. new house, South Hants. 1000 sq. ft. master bedroom, dressing area, bath, two bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, sun room, terrace, garden, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Price £120,000. Tel. 01424 2211.

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##### PROPERTY TO LET

1000 sq. ft. new house, South Hants. 1000 sq. ft. master bedroom, dressing area, bath, two bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, sun room, terrace, garden, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Price £120,000. Tel. 01424 2211.

##### PROPERTY WANTED

1000 sq. ft. new house, South Hants. 1000 sq. ft. master bedroom, dressing area, bath, two bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, sun room, terrace, garden, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Price £120,000. Tel. 01424 2211.

#### PUBLIC NOTICES

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1000 sq. ft. new house, South Hants. 1000 sq. ft. master bedroom, dressing area, bath, two bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, sun room, terrace, garden, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Price £120,000. Tel. 01424 2211.

##### PASTORAL MEASURE 1968

1000 sq. ft. new house, South Hants. 1000 sq. ft. master bedroom, dressing area, bath, two bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, sun room, terrace, garden, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Price £120,000. Tel. 01424 2211.

##### BUSINESS NOTICES

1000 sq. ft. new house, South Hants. 1000 sq. ft. master bedroom, dressing area, bath, two bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, sun room, terrace, garden, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Price £120,000. Tel. 01424 2211.

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1000 sq. ft. new house, South Hants. 1000 sq. ft. master bedroom, dressing area, bath, two bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, sun room, terrace, garden, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Price £120,000. Tel. 01424 2211.

##### INTERNATIONAL AGENCY

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1000 sq. ft. new house, South Hants. 1000 sq. ft. master bedroom, dressing area, bath, two bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, sun room, terrace, garden, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Price £120,000. Tel. 01424 2211.

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1000 sq. ft. new house, South Hants. 1000 sq. ft. master bedroom, dressing area, bath, two bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, sun room, terrace, garden, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Price £120,000. Tel. 01424 2211.

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1000 sq. ft. new house, South Hants. 1000 sq. ft. master bedroom, dressing area, bath, two bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, sun room, terrace, garden, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Price £120,000. Tel. 01424 2211.

##### DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

1000 sq. ft. new house, South Hants. 1000 sq. ft. master bedroom, dressing area, bath, two bedrooms, kitchen, living room, dining room, sun room, terrace, garden, swimming pool, tennis court, etc. Price £120,000. Tel. 01424 2211.

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## SECRETARIAL

## PRIVATE SECRETARY, JAMAICA

Private Secretary to Managing Director required for a small business in Jamaica. Must be able to deal with all aspects of the office. Salary £2,150 p.w. negotiable.

Please apply in writing to:

Mrs. C. Nails  
C. Nails Conferences  
27 Upper Street  
London, N.1

## BILINGUAL GERMAN/ENGLISH

## PERSONAL ASSISTANT

For Sales Manager of International photo-library in St. John's Wood. Daily personally with clients. Must be able to deal with all aspects of the office. Salary £2,150 p.w. negotiable.

Please apply by letter or telephone to:

01-584 3323  
STOCK PHOTO  
INTERNATIONAL LTD.

## DOES HIGH FINANCE FASCINATE YOU?

## £3,000 PLUS

Chairman of newly formed City Finance Company is looking for a Personal Assistant who is confident and efficient as well as being a good shorthand typist. Must be able to deal with all aspects of the office. Salary £3,000 plus.

If you are able to cope with the challenges of a career in finance, please apply to:

WILLSELECT LTD.  
Tel: 01-494 7840

## MALE ENVIRONMENT

requires Secretary. Small Head Office of investment group. Eratic work load, occasional pressure. £2,800 plus B.U.P.A. Scope for non-Secretarial advancement.

Phone 242 7693

## SHORTHAND SECRETARY TO PARTNER

## REQUIRED

35+ varied and responsible position working for Commercial firm. Must be able to deal with all aspects of the office. Salary £2,150 p.w. negotiable.

Apply to:

HAMPTON & SONS.  
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an interesting and varied range of responsibilities. Must be able to deal with all aspects of the office. Salary £2,150 p.w. negotiable.

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## SITUATIONS WANTED

## WIDELY EXPERIENCED MALE PROPERTY AND COMMERCIAL LAWYER

aged 44, LL.B. (London). Just retired from own private law firm in London for 3 months in 3 years. For secretarial duties contact:

STURGES MARVIN LESTING  
DEPARTMENT  
01-493 1401

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Compact modern flat, 1 double, single bedroom, both with built-in kitchen, bathroom, comfortable sitting room, dining room, etc. Rent for 3 months.

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## JONATHAN DAVID

GRAND flat in Berkeley Square, 1 double, single bedroom, both with built-in kitchen, bathroom, comfortable sitting room, dining room, etc. Rent for 3 months.

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## FLAT SHARING

MARLBOROUGH. Flat in Berkeley Square, 1 double, single bedroom, both with built-in kitchen, bathroom, comfortable sitting room, dining room, etc. Rent for 3 months.

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## SWISS COTTAGE

Business man with 25 to share modern flat in Berkeley Square, 1 double, single bedroom, both with built-in kitchen, bathroom, comfortable sitting room, dining room, etc. Rent for 3 months.

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## N.W. LUXURY flat

in Berkeley Square, 1 double, single bedroom, both with built-in kitchen, bathroom, comfortable sitting room, dining room, etc. Rent for 3 months.

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share modern flat in Berkeley Square, 1 double, single bedroom, both with built-in kitchen, bathroom, comfortable sitting room, dining room, etc. Rent for 3 months.

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## FLAT MATRONS

in Berkeley Square, 1 double, single bedroom, both with built-in kitchen, bathroom, comfortable sitting room, dining room, etc. Rent for 3 months.

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in Berkeley Square, 1 double, single bedroom, both with built-in kitchen, bathroom, comfortable sitting room, dining room, etc. Rent for 3 months.

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## LANDLORDS S.O.S.

Urgently required for overseas companies and individuals. Must be able to deal with all aspects of the office. Salary £2,150 p.w. negotiable.

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## FLAT



